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MARCH 1955

## DISCUSSION ON THE TRANSIENT RESPONSE OF R.F. AND I.F. FILTERS TO A WAVE PACKET\*\*

Mr. M. Dishal (*United States: communicated*): I wish to protest strongly than Mr. D. A. Bell† against what I feel are the generously incomplete conclusions of the author, and I feel the following comments may be helpful.

First, let me stress that I am considering only the small-percentage bandwidth problem—the problem encountered in practical cases—with the carrier set at the middle of the band.

The author points out that eqn. (51) does not simplify when  $1$ ; this is so because the mid-frequency  $\omega_0$  of the pass band is not  $\omega_1$  but rather is  $\omega_1/\sqrt{1-k^2}$ .

Thus if eqn. (51) is correct, substitution of  $u = 1/\sqrt{1-k^2}$  must make its envelope reduce (for the small-percentage bandwidth case) to the well-known result given by eqn. (B):

$$= 1 - \varepsilon^{-\frac{\omega_0 t}{2Q}} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{(kQ)^2}} \sin \left[ \frac{\omega_0 k t}{2} + \arctan(kQ) \right]. \quad (B)$$

re, for the  $Q_1 = Q_2$  double-tuned circuit considered by the author,  $k$  is the usual coefficient of coupling, and  $Q$  is the usual resonant-circuit Q-factor. In the author's terminology

$$Q = 1/2s\sqrt{1-k^2}$$

the best way to obtain the relationship between rise-time and bandwidth is to plot the complete step response from eqn. (B) not consider a part of an equation as the author has done) then relate these plots to the amplitude and phase plots for same circuit.

Fig. B is such a plot of eqn. (B) for various  $kQ$  values, with response normalized to the half-power points for each case. Responses have been stopped at the point where the minimum overshoot occurs, and have not been plotted for values greater than  $1.3$ , because of the resulting undesirable overshoot, or less than  $0.3$ , because of the resulting undesirable "slowness" near the top of the step.

This Fig. B shows that one must define rise-time before it can be discussed, and that if the usual 10–90% definition is used, for all the amplitude and phase shapes produced by the values shown, the rise-time is approximately

$$\Delta t_{0.1 \rightarrow 0.9} = \frac{0.67}{BW_{3\text{ dB}}} \dots \dots \dots (C)$$

this result, which applies to the great majority of practical applications of the circuit considered in the author's Section 4, states the sweeping conclusions drawn by him.

† JENT, A. W.: Monograph No. 45 R, August, 1952 (see 99, Part IV, p. 326).  
see 1954, 101, Part IV, p. 164.

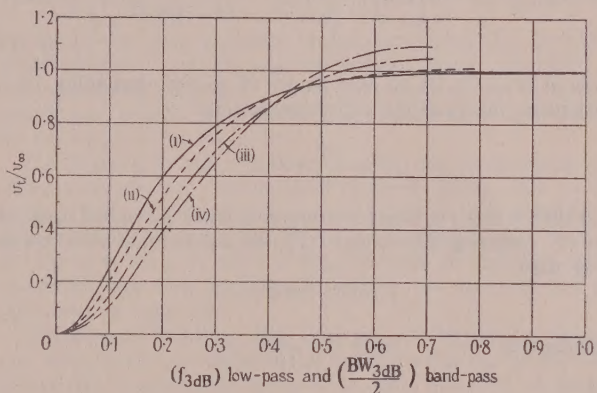


Fig. B.—Envelope response of a double-tuned circuit to a unit carrier step (carrier at centre of pass band and  $\frac{BW_{3\text{ dB}}}{f_0} < 0.1$ ).

- (i)  $kQ = 0.289$ .
- (ii)  $kQ = 0.576$  for maximally linear phase.
- (iii)  $kQ = 1.0$  for maximally flat amplitude.
- (iv)  $kQ = 1.32$ .

I similarly disagree with the author's reply to Mr. Bell. If, instead of considering his  $P$ , which is based upon a part of an equation, he had plotted the actual step response, he would find that with practically useful responses there is no basis for his statement to the effect that a double-tuned circuit can be designed to give "a pulse rising just over two and a half times as fast as a pulse in a tuned-anode circuit of the same bandwidth." For the latter case it is well known that the resulting step-response envelope is for the small percentage bandwidth case

$$\frac{v_t}{v_\infty} = 1 - \varepsilon^{-\frac{\omega_0 t}{2Q}} \dots \dots \dots (D)$$

from which we obtain

$$\Delta t_{0.1 \rightarrow 0.9} = \frac{0.70}{BW_{3\text{ dB}}} \dots \dots \dots (E)$$

which for all practical purposes is identical to the result [eqn. (B)] obtained with useful double-tuned circuits.

Based upon the analysis and measurement of many higher-order physically-realizable minimum-phase circuits, it seems safe to make the following concluding statement: the 10–90% envelope rise-time of most carrier-centered small-percentage band-pass circuits is inversely proportional to its bandwidth, and



in fact is equal to 0.7 divided by the total 3 dB-down bandwidth, to an accuracy of approximately 20%.

Mr. A. W. Gent (*in reply*): Mr. Dishal raises the point that, as an alternative to considering the magnitude of the exponents of the decay terms for estimating the rise-time, he would prefer to take the time required for the envelope to rise from the 10% to the 90% level.

It is a simple matter to find the envelopes in either the tuned-anode case from eqn. (30), or the tuned transformer from eqn. (51). For simplicity take the tuned anode and choose the applied frequency to coincide with the resonant frequency, i.e.  $u = 1$ . This leads to eqn. (31), and expanding  $\sin(\omega_0 t + \phi)$ , this can be written

$$\frac{F(t)}{r} = p \cos \phi + q \sin \phi \quad \dots \quad (F)$$

$$\text{where} \quad p = \sin \omega_1 t - \frac{\varepsilon^{-s\omega_1 t} \sin(1-s^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \omega_1 t}{(1-s^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$q = \cos \omega_1 t \sim \varepsilon^{-s\omega_1 t} \left[ \cos(1-s^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \omega_1 t - \frac{s}{(1-s^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sin(1-s^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \omega_1 t \right] \quad \dots \quad (G)$$

Now if  $y = f(x, c)$  is any family of curves depending on a parameter, the envelope is given by setting

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = 0$$

and eliminating  $c$  between this equation and the original equation for  $y$ . Applying this to eqn. (F), we differentiate with respect to  $\phi$ , then

$$-p \sin \phi + q \cos \phi = 0$$

$$\text{Solving this} \quad \sin \phi = \frac{q}{\sqrt{(p^2 + q^2)}}$$

$$\cos \phi = \frac{p}{\sqrt{(p^2 + q^2)}}$$

and substituting in eqn. (F) gives

$$\text{Envelope: } \frac{F(t)}{r} = \sqrt{(p^2 + q^2)} \quad \dots \quad (H)$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are given by the expressions in eqn. (G).

Exactly the same treatment can be applied to eqn. (51), but the expressions are longer and will not be given here.

If we tabulate eqn. (H) for various values of  $s$  we can find the time to rise from 10% to 90%. The 3 dB bandwidth has a simple relation to  $s$ , namely  $B = 2s$ . We can therefore plot the product  $B\Delta t$  as a function of  $B$ . This has been done in Fig. C. The intercept at  $B = 0$  is 0.70, agreeing with Mr. Dishal's eqn. (E). It will be seen that  $B\Delta t$  is not constant, or even approximately constant, as  $B$  varies.

Of course, if we restrict  $B$  to small values, the product  $B\Delta t$  is approximately constant, but there is nothing remarkable in that. Any function which has a Taylor expansion, and whose first derivative vanishes at some point, will be approximately constant for a restricted range of the independent variable near that point. Nevertheless, if we have a formula available which is valid for a wide range of the variable, we should surely investigate it over the whole range of its validity.

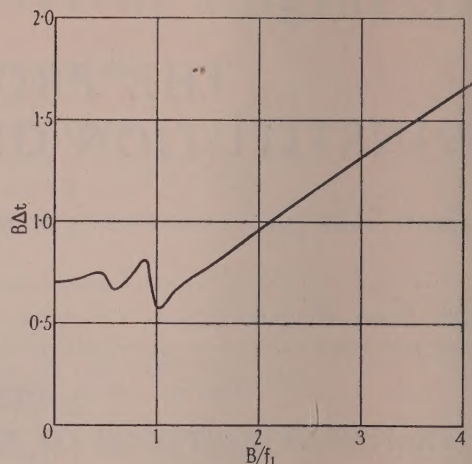


Fig. C.— $B\Delta t$  plotted against  $B/f_1$  for a tuned-anode circuit.

In the case of the tuned transformer we have two variables so that one way of presenting the variation of  $B\Delta t$  would be to plot contours of constant  $B\Delta t$ . The actual calculation of contours makes heavy work using the ordinary desk calculator, there is no difficulty in principle. It is a simple tabulation problem from explicit formulae. An electronic calculator would no doubt provide a speedy result.

To show that  $B\Delta t$  is not constant the calculations have been carried out for two pairs of values of  $m$  and  $s$ . In each case the applied frequency was chosen to be the resonant peak frequency which differs from  $f_1$ .

(a)  $m = 0.9$ ,  $s = 0.8$ . This gives peak frequency (equal applied frequency)  $= 0.745f_1$ ;  $B(3 \text{ dB}) = 0.888f_1$ ;  $\Delta t(0.1 \rightarrow 0.9) = 0.748/f_1$ ; so that  $B\Delta t = 0.664$ .

(b)  $m = 0.3$ ,  $s = 10$ . This gives peak frequency (equal applied frequency)  $= 0.092f_1$ ;  $B(3 \text{ dB}) = 0.293f_1$ ;  $\Delta t(0.1 \rightarrow 0.9) = 4.551/f_1$ ; so that  $B\Delta t = 1.333$ .

These two values of  $B\Delta t$  are in the ratio 2:1, so that  $B\Delta t$  is not constant, although here again it would not be surprising to find that it was nearly constant over a suitably restricted range of  $m$  and  $s$ .

In conclusion, Mr. Dishal is at liberty, if he wishes, to restrict his discussion to narrow bands on the grounds that these form the majority of practical circuits; but although this may be true to-day, what of to-morrow? The present tendency in circuit design technique seems to be towards wider and wider bandwidths.

Corrigenda: 1952, 99, Part IV, p. 334, eqn. (51).

Line 1: in the coefficient of  $\sin(\omega_0 t + \phi)$ , for  $4ksu^2$  read  $8ks^2u^2$ .

Lines 2 and 3: for  $\frac{1}{1-k} - \frac{u^2}{2}$  read  $\frac{1}{1-k} - u^2$ .

Line 4: first symbol, for  $+$  read  $-$ .

Also: for  $\frac{\sin \alpha \omega_1 t}{\alpha}$  read  $\frac{\sin \alpha \omega_1 t}{2\alpha s}$ .

Line 5: first symbol, for  $-$  read  $+$ .

Also: for  $\frac{\sin \gamma \omega_1 t}{\gamma}$  read  $\frac{\sin \gamma \omega_1 t}{2\gamma s}$ .



# THE PRECISE MEASUREMENT OF CAPACITANCE

By J. K. WEBB, M.Sc.Eng., B.Sc.Tech., Member, and H. B. WOOD, Graduate.

(The paper was first received 15th December, 1953, and in revised form 20th February, 1954. It was published as an INSTITUTION MONOGRAPH in May, 1954.)

## SUMMARY

The method described is designed for industrial application and purpose is to enable capacitance to be conveniently measured with a precision approaching that achieved by the National Physical Laboratory—on whom reliance is placed as the standardizing authority. Advantage is taken of the fact that resistance and frequency standards of great stability can now be produced, and all measurements are referred to such standards.

The apparatus essentially comprises a bridge network with inductively coupled ratio arms which may be switched into the form of either a "comparison" or a Wien bridge. A novel feature is the combined use of the comparison bridge with a 2:1 ratio and the Wien bridge with a 1:1 ratio, whereby the phase-angle of the frequency-dependent arms is made 45°. This enables the unknown capacitance in one arm to be determined in terms of the resistance in the other arm at a given frequency, the values of the other capacitance and resistance not being required. In this way capacitor standards having values ranging from 0.01 to 1.0  $\mu\text{F}$  may be precisely calibrated at 1 kc/s and 2 kc/s.

The comparison bridge then enables any capacitor within the range 100  $\mu\text{F}$ –1  $\mu\text{F}$  to be measured in terms of one or more of these capacitor standards with an accuracy of about  $\pm 100$  parts in  $10^6$ , or 0.1  $\mu\text{F}$ .

A simplified version of the Wien bridge is proposed which is specially designed to calibrate a standard capacitor of value 0.1  $\mu\text{F}$  at 1 kc/s in terms of a standard resistor having a nominal value of 180 ohms.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

Mica capacitors are now being manufactured in large quantities, many of which are required to an accuracy of 1 000 parts in  $10^6$  (0.1%) with correspondingly high degrees of stability and low temperature coefficients. To guarantee such limits and check their stability, a flexible system of capacitance measurement having a precision better than 100 parts in  $10^6$ , and being capable of checking relative values within about 100 parts in  $10^6$  must be available. Such precision has already been achieved in the Wien bridge arrangement of Ferguson and Bartlett<sup>3</sup> and in Astbury's modification of the Carey-Foster bridge,<sup>6</sup> together with the N.P.L.'s precision Schering bridge, both of which have been described by Rayner and Ford.<sup>10</sup>

It is very desirable, however, especially in connection with industrial equipment, that the system of measurement should be robust and easy to operate. There is no doubt that a method which directly compares like impedances, i.e. one capacitance with another, best satisfies this condition. Since its success depends entirely on the reliability of capacitance standards, we must first examine this question. When the present work was initiated in 1945, the data available were not at all encouraging and, in 1946, Garton<sup>9</sup> seemed to confirm this sentiment. Since then, however, further data have accumulated and, in 1951, Rayner and Ford<sup>14</sup> made it appear that the position was much better than had been previously assessed. The authors have confirmed these observations (see Section 11.6) and, furthermore, by

effecting improvements in the hermetic sealing of standards, believe that they have eliminated an important source of instability. The position now is that the stability of such standards (which may be of the order of 50 parts in  $10^6$  per annum) can be considered adequate in those cases where annual calibrations by a standardizing authority such as the N.P.L. can readily be secured. It should be noted that only one standard, (say 0.1  $\mu\text{F}$ ), is necessary for the determination of any value of capacitance by the method of direct comparison, the reliability of which is therefore of a fairly high order.

One of the most successful bridges employing this method is indubitably the "capacity and conductance bridge" described by Shackleton and Ferguson.<sup>2</sup> A modern improvement is the substitution of inductively coupled ratio arms (see Section 11.1.5) for the original resistive ratios.

The Schering bridge is another possible choice, particularly if interest includes the measurement of power factor over a wide range. With this bridge, however, advantage cannot be taken of the facilities offered by inductively coupled ratio arms. Instead, for the most accurate work a Wagner earth is essential, which somewhat increases the complication of the network and the difficulties of operation.

The comparison bridge [Fig. 1(b)] may also be used to compare one capacitance with another. It has the advantage of enabling inductively coupled ratio arms to be used, although its power-factor range is restricted. If, however, interest is centred on the precise measurement of capacitance, this restriction can be accepted, since in the case of precision capacitors, power factors are usually very low. [Incidentally, the use of shunted resistive elements (see Section 11.1.1), provides adequate discrimination and freedom from contact error in the bridge balance so far as power factor is concerned.]

All of the above types of bridge depend entirely for their accuracy on the stability of mica standard capacitors, and although this is shown to be good, the inherent stability of standard resistors is still considerably better. Thus the best commercial types of resistor to date have drifts lower than 10 parts in  $10^6$  per annum (see Section 11.7), while a recent development<sup>16</sup> promises drifts as low as 0.1 part in  $10^6$  per annum. It is therefore still attractive to be able to verify capacitance standards in terms of resistance standards.

The Wien bridge [Fig. 1(a)] enables this to be done, and since its components are identical with those of the comparison bridge [Fig. 1(b)], it can be conveniently arranged to switch from one network to the other. This resulting combination provides the means of measuring any odd values of capacitance in terms of resistance within the range 0.01–1  $\mu\text{F}$ , provided that the corresponding odd values of resistance at balance can be determined with the required precision. Since this requirement is both onerous and largely superfluous, however, it is preferable to concentrate on the calibration of one or more standard capacitors in terms of fixed standard resistors, which obviates the necessity for these resistance measurements. Taken to its limit, this idea results in the very simple arrangement proposed in Section 7.

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.  
Mr. Webb and Mr. Wood are at Standard Telecommunication Laboratories Ltd.



### (2) BASIC THEORY OF THE WIEN BRIDGE

Consider the Wien bridge network shown in Fig. 1(a). Balance is achieved when the impedance in the A-B arm equals that in the B-C arm, or when

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{R} + j\omega C_1} = R_2 + \frac{1}{j\omega C_2} \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

from which  $C_1 R_1 + C_2 R_2 = C_2 R_1 \quad \dots \quad (1a)$

and  $\omega^2 C_1 R_1 C_2 R_2 = 1 \quad \dots \quad (1b)$

Eliminating  $R_2$  from these equations gives

$$\frac{1}{\omega^2 R_1^2} = C_1(C_2 - C_1) \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

If, now,  $C_1 = C_2/n$ , eqn. (2) becomes

$$C_2 = \frac{n}{\sqrt{(n-1)}} \frac{1}{\omega R_1} \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

The optimum value of  $n$  results when the fractional change of  $C_2$  for a small change in  $n$  is a minimum

i.e. when  $\frac{1}{C_2} \frac{dC_2}{dn} = 0$

It can easily be shown that this condition arises when  $n = 2$ , in which case eqn. (3) becomes

$$C_2 = \frac{2}{\omega R_1} = \frac{1}{\pi f R_1} = \frac{G_1}{\pi f} \quad \dots \quad (4)$$

where

$$G_1 = \frac{1}{R_1}$$

Although frequency could be made one of the variables, there are good reasons for operating at a fixed known frequency, in which case balance is secured by varying  $R_1$  to a known value, and  $R_2$ , the value of which, however, need not be known to determine  $C_2$ .

Thus at any given frequency  $C_2$  is given directly in terms of the effective conductance across  $C_1$ .

Substituting  $2C_1$  for  $C_2$  in eqn. (4), it follows that

$$R_1 = \frac{1}{\omega C_1} \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

Thus when  $n = 2$  the phase angles of the bridge arms are  $45^\circ$ .

Reverting to eqn. (3), it is clear that to determine accurately an unknown capacitance  $C_2$  precise knowledge of  $\omega$ ,  $R_1$  and the function  $n/\sqrt{(n-1)}$  is required.

It is, however, comparatively easy to adjust  $n$  to a value of 2 within  $\pm 0.1\%$ , in which case the function has only changed by as little as 0.5 part in  $10^6$ . [If  $n = 2(1 + \epsilon)$  where  $\epsilon$  is a small fraction, then  $n/\sqrt{(n-1)} \approx 2 + \epsilon^2$ .] The fact that the adjustment is not critical greatly facilitates measurements.

#### (2.1) Operational Procedure

To measure an unknown capacitor  $C_2$ , it is first balanced against  $C_1$  in the comparison bridge [Fig. 1(b)], using a 2 : 1 ratio, so that  $n = C_2/C_1 = 2$ . The network is then switched into the Wien bridge [Fig. 1(a)] form, with 1 : 1 ratio, and balance regained simply by adjusting  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , the frequency being fixed at a known value.  $C_2$  may now be determined directly in terms of  $R_1$ , and standard capacitors having values ranging

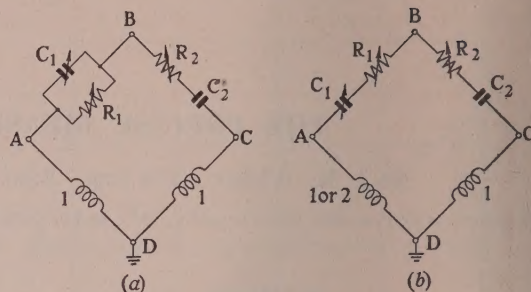


Fig. 1.—Bridge circuits

(a) Wien bridge of 1 : 1 ratio.  
(b) Comparison bridge of 1 : 1 and 2 : 1 ratio.  
(Ratio arms are inductively coupled.)

from 0.01 to 1  $\mu\text{F}$  may be precisely calibrated at 1 kc/s or 2 kc/s in this way. One or more of these standards then enable the variable capacitor  $C_1$  to be precisely calibrated by the step-by-step procedure outlined by Ford and Astbury.<sup>5</sup> Capacitors over the range 100  $\mu\text{F}$ –1  $\mu\text{F}$  may thereafter be measured in terms of  $C_1$  by means of the comparison bridge using a 1 : 1 ratio to an accuracy of  $\pm 100$  parts in  $10^6$  or  $\pm 0.1 \mu\text{F}$ .

The approximate values of  $C_1$  and  $R_1$  to enable standard capacitors of nominal values 0.01, 0.1 and 1  $\mu\text{F}$  to be calibrated at various frequencies, are given in Table 1.

Table 1

COMPONENT VALUES FOR WIEN BRIDGE

$C_2$ (unknown)	$C_1$	$R_1$ at 1 kc/s	$R_1$ at 2 kc/s
$\mu\text{F}$	$\mu\text{F}$	ohms	ohms
1.0	0.5	318.3	159.2
0.1	0.05	3 183	1 592
0.01	0.005	31 830	15 920

If  $C_1$  had been made the unknown instead of  $C_2$ , the above values of resistance would be divided by 4.

### (3) CORRECTIONS

It has so far been tacitly assumed that the various circuit elements are pure. Unfortunately this is not the case, and a summary of the errors arising from impurities and other sources will now be considered. Those which are inherently negligible or which can be made negligible are considered first.

#### (3.1) Error in the Estimation of the Frequency

It is comparatively simple with present-day standards to ensure that the frequency of the oscillator feeding the bridge has an accuracy better than 1 part in  $10^6$ , so that this source of error is insignificant.

#### (3.2) The Ratio $n$

This question has already been discussed in Section 2, and there is no appreciable error in the means provided for adjusting  $n$  to a value of 2.

#### (3.3) Modulation Errors

Modulation errors have been discussed by Ferguson and Bartlett.<sup>3</sup> They can be obviated by feeding the bridge with a very pure tone, filtering the output, and avoiding overloaded elements, such as transformers and valves, which tend to become non-linear. If the bridge balance remains undisturbed over



range of input signal, the effect may be regarded as negligible. This has been achieved in the present instance.

### (3.4) Variation of Effective Resistance of $R_1$ with Frequency

To determine  $C_2$ , the effective value of  $R_1$  must be known at the frequency of measurement. In practice, however,  $R_1$  is measured with direct current. At the frequencies considered (1 kc/s and 2 kc/s) skin and proximity effects appear to be quite negligible. Conductance of the insulated covering of the manganin wire may be different for alternating current compared with direct current, and series inductance with shunt capacitance will contribute a real term to the a.c. impedance. From measurements made on similar resistors there is a definite suggestion that at part, at least, of the discrepancy noted in Section 6 between results obtained by the authors and the N.P.L. may be attributed to the fact that the a.c. resistance of  $R_1$  is anything up to about 10 parts in  $10^6$  below that of the d.c. resistance, apparently caused by dielectric loss. The consistency of the correlation obtained over a wide range of capacitance, however, has led to the conclusion that this is the greatest error which can be attributed to such cases.

### (3.5) Self-capacitance and inductance of parallel resistor $R_1$

Although resistors designed for use in a.c. circuits may have very small phase-angles,<sup>8</sup> these are nevertheless of sufficient magnitude to produce appreciable errors in a precision bridge unless they are taken into account. Thus, while in the present use of  $R_1$  the effect is shown to be negligible, it is later shown in Section 3.12 that in the case of  $R_2$  it is significant.

The reactance of a resistor is usually expressed in terms of an effective series inductance  $L_R$  which may be either positive or negative. An indication of the quality of a resistor is given by the time-constant,  $T = L_R/R$  which should be as small as possible. In the case of the parallel resistor  $R_1$  [Fig. 1(a)] it is convenient to express the effective reactance in terms of an equivalent parallel capacitance,  $C_R$ , since it can then be added in series to  $C_1$  giving a total capacitance in the B-C arm of  $C_1 + C_R$ . This has the effect of changing the ratio  $n$  from  $C_2/C_1$  to  $C_2/(C_1 + C_R)$  where  $C_R = T_1^2/R_1$  which, in itself, is quite negligible as has already been explained in Section 2. The transformation from the series to the parallel circuit, however, also has the effect of changing the effective value of the parallel resistor from  $R_1$  to  $R_1(1 + \omega^2 T_1^2)$ .  $T_1$  may be of the order of  $5 \times 10^{-8}$ , so that at 2 kc/s the factor  $1 + \omega^2 T_1^2 = 1.0000004$ . This represents a change of only 0.4 part in  $10^6$ , the effects of the self-capacitance and inductance of the parallel resistor  $R_1$  are thus seen to be quite negligible.

### (3.6) Power Factor in the Unknown Capacitor $C_2$

The power factor of  $C_2$  may be expressed as  $\omega C_2 r_2$ , where  $r_2$  is the effective series resistance of  $C_2$ . The total effective resistance  $R_2'$  in the B-C arm thus comprises the actual resistor  $R_2$  in series with  $C_2$  plus this value of  $r_2$ . Now rewriting eqn. (1a) in the form

$$\frac{C_1}{C_2} + \frac{R_2'}{R_1} = 1 \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

it becomes evident that, if the ratio  $C_1/C_2$  is adjusted to 1/2, the ratio  $R_2'/R_1$  must also be adjusted to 1/2 to satisfy this equation. [The fact that eqn. 1(b) has also to be satisfied, implies that  $R_1$  and  $R_2'$  can each have only one discrete value.] Hence, however, we have eliminated  $R_2'$  from the final balance equations, its actual value need not be known. The power factor of  $C_2$  does not therefore introduce any error in computing the value of its capacitance.

### (3.7) Stray Capacitances to Earth of Components in A-B and B-C Arms falling across A-D and C-D Coil Ratios

From Section 11.1.5 it is seen that large unbalanced capacitances may appear across the ratio arms without causing appreciable error. Nevertheless, the earth capacitances of the components in the A-B and B-C arms were measured and made as nearly equal as possible by connecting a small padding capacitor between the C point and earth, as indicated in Fig. 2.

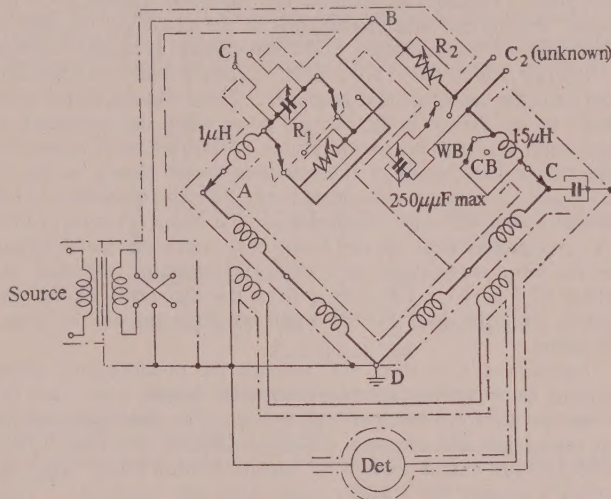


Fig. 2.—Wien and comparison bridge giving details of switching and shielding.

(Switches are shown set for Wien-bridge operation.)

A check was also made that a gross value of unbalanced capacitance (of the order of 3 000  $\mu\mu\text{F}$ ) could be thrown across either A-D or the C-D arms without disturbing the bridge balance. The effect of stray capacitance may thus be regarded as negligible.

### (3.8) Inequality of Ratio Arms

One advantage of using inductively coupled ratio arms is that they may be adjusted to equality of ratio with great precision and, furthermore, the adjustment is very stable (see Section 11.1.5). Any slight inequality may be dealt with by the usual method of interchanging ratio arms, and to facilitate this a reversing switch has been incorporated, as indicated in Fig. 3.

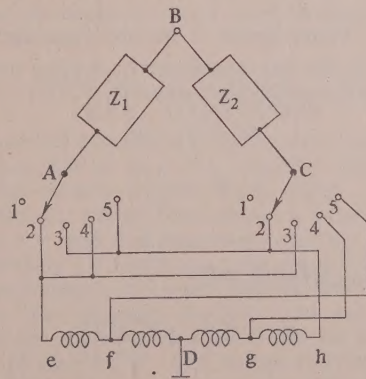


Fig. 3.—Coil-switching arrangement for Wien or comparison bridge.

- 1 .. Open circuit.
- 2 .. Equal ratio.
- 3 .. Equal ratio (reversed).
- 4 .. 1 : 2 ratio.
- 5 .. 1 : 2 ratio (reversed).



In the present instance, the coils have been balanced with a residual error of 7 parts in  $10^6$ . Allowance can be made by multiplying the value of the unknown capacitance computed on the basis of equal ratio by the factor  $(1 + \delta)$ , where  $\delta = 7 \times 10^{-6}$ .

(3.9) Spurious Effects due to Direct Coupling between the Source and Detector

It is of the greatest importance to avoid any such direct coupling. Precautions include the magnetic shielding of the input transformer and tuning coils of the amplifier, the remote disposition of the oscillator, and the avoidance of mutual resistive couplings which may arise from common earth connections between the oscillator and amplifier. There should, in the ideal case, be no change in the balance point when the secondary of the input transformer to the bridge is reversed with respect to the primary by means of the reversing switch shown in Fig. 2. In practice, however, this ideal is very difficult to achieve with a bridge having very high discrimination (i.e. about  $\pm 3$  parts in  $10^6$ ), as in the present case. It was found that, with a particular setting of the input transformer and coil-ratio reversing switches, the error of 7 parts in  $10^6$  arising from the inequality of the coil ratios was cancelled by the small residual amount of direct coupling.

Apart from this, there still remains the possibility of errors arising from mutual couplings between bridge arms and the leads thereto from the reversing switch. The final arrangement of these leads and screen is, to quote Astbury and Ford,<sup>6</sup> "too often in the end a matter of hopeful compromise," and the authors cannot but ruefully agree with this sentiment. They have, however, tried various arrangements, with almost negligible effect on measured values.

(3.10) Lead Resistances and Inductances in A-B and B-C Arms

The physical connections of the components in the A-B and B-C arms will introduce some resistance and inductance in these arms. Since, however, the parallel  $R_1C_1$  combination is electrically equivalent to the series  $R_2C_2$  combination at balance, it is only necessary to ensure that the residual values of resistance and inductance due to leads in the A-B arm are identical with those in the B-C arm, to avoid errors on their account. A small resistive unbalance will not in itself introduce appreciable error, but it is of the greatest importance to ensure that the inductances are balanced. To this end one arm is "padded" with sufficient inductance (of the order of  $1 \mu\text{H}$ ) to attain this balance by the method outlined in Section 11.2.

(3.11) Power Factor of Parallel Capacitor  $C_1$

From eqn. (4) the test capacitance  $C_2$  is given direct in terms of the effective conductance  $G'_1$  across  $C_1$ .

Now 
$$G'_1 = G_1 + g_1 \dots \dots \dots (7)$$

where 
$$G_1 = \frac{1}{R_1}$$

and 
$$g_1 = \omega C_1 \phi_1$$

$\phi_1$  being the power factor of  $C_1$ .

Hence 
$$G'_1 = G_1 \left( 1 + \frac{\omega C_1 \phi_1}{G_1} \right)$$

But, from eqn. (5)

$$\omega C_1 R_1 = 1$$

Thus 
$$\frac{1}{R'_1} = \frac{1}{R_1} (1 + \phi_1) \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

In practice  $C_1$  comprises a high-grade mica capacitor having a power factor ranging from about 0.00004 to 0.0002, depending on the setting. If, by the way of example, the power factor is 0.0001, it is seen that  $1/R'_1$  is increased by a factor of 100 parts in  $10^6$ , which is a significant correction.

A careful check must therefore be kept on the value of power factor of  $C_1$ , as mentioned in Section 11.1.3.

(3.12) Self-Capacitance and Inductance of Series Resistor  $R_2$

Although the actual resistance of  $R_2$  need not be known, its phase angle is important, since it affects the total reactance in the B-C arm and hence the apparent value of the same capacitance.

Thus, if  $R_2$  has an effective series inductance  $L_2$ , such that  $T_2 = L_2/R_2 \approx 2L_2/R_1$ , the reactance in the B-C arm becomes

$$X_{BC} = \frac{j\omega R_1 T_2}{2} + \frac{1}{j\omega C_2}$$

Now from eqn. (4) 
$$\omega R_1 = \frac{2}{C_2}$$

so that 
$$X_{BC} = \frac{jT_2}{C_2} + \frac{1}{j\omega C_2}$$
$$= \frac{1 - \omega T_2}{j\omega C_2} = \frac{1 - Q_2}{j\omega C_2}$$

where 
$$Q_2 = \omega T_2$$

But 
$$X_{BC} = \frac{1}{j\omega C_{BC}}$$

where  $C_{BC}$  is the effective capacitance in B-C arm.

Hence 
$$C_2 = C_{BC}(1 - Q_2)$$

Or, to find the true value of  $C_2$ , we must multiply the apparent measured value by the factor  $(1 - Q_2)$ .

Table 2 gives the order of the correction. In those cases where  $Q_2$  is negative,  $(1 - Q_2)$  is greater than unity.

Table 2  
CORRECTION DUE TO TIME-CONSTANT OF  $R_2$

$C_2$	Correction due to time-constant of $R_2$	
	Parts in $10^6$ at 1 kc/s	Parts in $10^6$ at 2 kc/s
$\mu\text{F}$		
1	0	0
0.1	-10	-11
0.01	-209	-630

(3.13) Residual Capacitance  $C_0$  in the B-C Arm

It was shown in Section 2 that the Wien-bridge equations give the total reactance in the B-C arm. In order, therefore, to extract the value of the capacitance connected to the test terminals of the bridge from the measured data, it is necessary to know the internal residual capacitance of the B-C arm. This was determined using the bridge network itself as follows:

The comparison bridge is first balanced with a convenient fixed value of capacitance  $C_2$  connected to the "unknown" terminals in the B-C arm with the coils switched to unity ratio. The capacitance in the A-B arm is then  $C'_1 = C_2 + C_0$ , where  $C_0$  is the required residual capacitance. When the coils are switched to a ratio of 2:1, the capacitance in the A-B arm is balance is adjusted to  $C'_1 = \frac{1}{2}(C_2 + C_0)$ . From these



equations  $C_0 = 2(C'_1 - C''_1) - C_2$ . Results were found to be reproducible over an extended period to better than  $0.1 \mu\mu\text{F}$ , the mean value being  $25.2 \mu\mu\text{F}$ . This residual must be subtracted from all Wien-bridge readings in order to determine the value of the capacitance actually connected to the test terminals.

### 3.14) External Lead Capacitance $C'_0$ and Inductance connecting Unknown Capacitance to Test Terminals

In addition to the fixed value of the residual capacitance in the B-C arm, an allowance must be made for the capacitance  $C'_0$  of the connecting leads. This external capacitance, which should always be kept as small as possible, can likewise be determined by means of the comparison bridge. The relative effect of direct and mutual capacitance must be carefully watched, however, as pointed out by Field.<sup>4</sup> If short connecting leads are used, a small value for the external lead capacitance  $C'_0$  is about  $0.8 \mu\mu\text{F}$ , so that the total allowance for residual and external leads amounts to  $26.0 \mu\mu\text{F}$ . The uncertainty in this value may be of the order of  $0.1 \mu\mu\text{F}$  and, although this is quite negligible when measuring capacitances of  $0.1 \mu\text{F}$  and over, it may involve an error of as much as 100 parts in  $10^6$  when measuring a  $1000\text{-}\mu\mu\text{F}$  capacitor.

As indicated in Section 11.2, the inductance of the connecting leads should be kept as low as possible, and an appropriate correction made.

## (4) COMPUTATION OF CORRECTIONS

The success of any practical scheme of measurement largely depends on the ability to take due account of unavoidable correction terms without the necessity of too much computation, and in what follows it is demonstrated how this can be achieved in the present instance.

Taking the significant correction factors into account, eqn. (4) must be rewritten as

$$C_2 = \frac{1}{\pi f R_1} (1 + \phi_1)(1 - Q_2) - (C_0 + C'_0) \quad (10)$$

and, since  $\phi_1$  and  $Q_2$  are both much smaller than unity, this closely approximates to

$$C_2 = \frac{1}{\pi f R_1} (1 + \phi_1 - Q_2) - (C_0 + C'_0) \quad (11)$$

which is now in a form suitable for computation.

### (4.1) Illustrative Example

By way of example, a set of observations appertaining to the calibration of a  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard capacitor at 1 kc/s with the present Wien bridge is now given, which will serve to illustrate the procedure.

The measurement is made in terms of a nominal 3 183-ohm resistance standard, the exact value of which is known from N.P.L. calibrations. The comparison bridge with a 2 : 1 ratio is first used to set  $C_1$  so that  $C_2/C_1 = 2$ . A 6-dial Wheatstone bridge is used to compare the actual value of the variable resistor  $R_1$  in the Wien bridge at balance with this 3 183-ohm standard.

In this way we obtain:

$$R_1 = 3\,185.26 \text{ ohms}$$

$$\phi_1 = 0.000154$$

$$Q_2 = -0.00001$$

$$C_0 = 0.0000252 \text{ (see Section 3.13)}$$

$$C'_0 = 0.0000008 \text{ (see Section 3.14)}$$

$$C_2 = 0.0999225 \mu\text{F at } 19.1^\circ \text{C.}$$

From which

Corresponding N.P.L. value =  $0.0999260 \mu\text{F at } 19.1^\circ \text{C.}$

The difference is 35 parts in  $10^6$  (for a discussion on the significance of this, see Section 6).

## (5) CONSISTENCY OF RESULTS

A decade mica-capacitor was calibrated on the comparison bridge throughout the range  $0.01\text{--}1.0 \mu\text{F}$  by the step-by-step method. The calibration was standardized in terms of a Wien-bridge measurement of the  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  setting. Each setting of the capacitor was then remeasured, using the Wien bridge in conjunction with a precision 6-dial Wheatstone bridge calibrated in terms of 100-, 1 000- and 10 000-ohm standards, and the results were compared. Measurements were made at both 1 kc/s and 2 kc/s. This whole procedure has been repeated at intervals on four separate occasions. The range of the deviations between all such two sets of observations is indicated in Fig. 4.

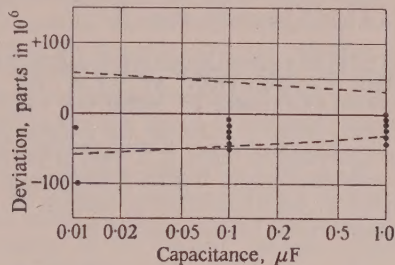


Fig. 4.—Correlation of observations.

The dotted lines give the range of the deviations between Wien- and comparison-bridge measurements as detailed in Section 5.

The points record the differences between the authors' measurements on their Wien bridge and the N.P.L. measurements of several capacitor standards, as described in Section 6.

All measurements were made in a laboratory which is normally subject to a temperature variation of several degrees in the course of a day. As the time interval between any two sets of measurements on any particular setting of the capacitor was about four hours, part of the range must be attributed to actual changes due to its temperature coefficient. It is estimated that if such changes were eliminated the range would be reduced almost by 50%.

### (5.1) Measurement of the Stability of a Capacitor

In measuring the stability of a capacitor we are not concerned with absolute values, but only with values relative to some fixed and invariable standard. From the foregoing considerations, it is seen that the range arising from experimental error should hardly amount to more than about  $\pm 20$  parts in  $10^6$ , but it must be emphasized that extreme care, particularly in the matter of temperature control, must be exercised to achieve this accuracy.

## (6) CORRELATION OF WIEN-BRIDGE RESULTS WITH N.P.L. CALIBRATIONS

Several standard capacitors, including those listed in Table 3, were measured first by the N.P.L. and then immediately afterwards by the authors on their Wien bridge. The difference between these two sets of observations is indicated on Fig. 4, from which it is seen that there is an apparent discrepancy of about 30 parts in  $10^6$  throughout the range  $0.01\text{--}1.0 \mu\text{F}$ . It must be remembered, however, that, at best, capacitance is only known to an accuracy of about  $\pm 50$  parts in  $10^6$ , while results normally given by the N.P.L. have the estimated limits of error of 100 parts in  $10^6$ . For routine measurements it is not possible to justify limits much closer than this, but in the case of the authors' standards, by special arrangement the N.P.L. authorities agreed to record the values they obtained to the nearest 10 parts in  $10^6$ , so that "rounding off" should not introduce any error and as much information as possible, parti-



cularly as regards stability, would be given. Against this background, the discrepancy can be regarded as being almost negligible, and it becomes apparent only from statistical evidence. The fact that the ratio of a.c. to d.c. resistance of  $R_1$  may be slightly less than unity may account for part, at least, of the discrepancy, as mentioned in Section 3.4, but this requires further investigation. For commercial purposes it is sufficient to be able to predict N.P.L. results with certainty from bridge readings, and in the present instance this can be achieved by multiplying all values by a constant factor of  $1.00003$ . It may be concluded, however, that the various correction terms have been accurately determined and applied, since none of the terms involved would give rise to a constant percentage error throughout a capacitance range of  $100:1$  and a frequency range of  $2:1$ .

#### (7) PROPOSALS FOR A SIMPLIFIED WIEN BRIDGE DESIGNED FOR THE CALIBRATION AT 1 KC/S OF A FIXED CAPACITOR STANDARD OF NOMINAL VALUE $0.1 \mu\text{F}$

If a capacitance bridge is available, the internal standards of which can be calibrated in terms of a fixed reference standard capacitor, a simplified form of Wien bridge designed specifically for the calibration of this standard can be adopted. It is generally agreed that the best value to choose is  $0.1 \mu\text{F}$ .

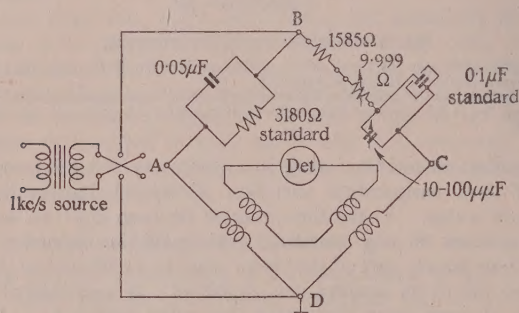


Fig. 5.—Basic circuit of simplified Wien bridge designed to calibrate a  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard capacitor at 1 kc/s.

Referring to Fig. 5, the scheme is to balance a  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard connected in parallel with a small built-in variable air-capacitor of range about  $10\text{--}100 \mu\text{F}$  against a standard resistor of nominal resistance  $3180$  ohms, whose exact value is initially adjusted so that balance is secured at about mid-scale of the variable air-capacitor. Variations of this air capacitor will not affect the value of the ratio  $C_1/C_2$  by more than  $0.1\%$ , so that, as shown in Section 2, the resulting error in the computation of  $C_2$  using eqn. (11) is less than 1 part in  $10^6$ . In series with the  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard is a fixed resistor of about  $1585$  ohms, together with a decade resistor of the constant-inductance type, having a total resistance of  $10$  ohms adjustable in increments of  $0.001$  ohm, the last two decades being of the shunted-dial type (see Section 11.1.1). The nominal  $0.05\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  capacitor in the A-B arm is adjusted to be equal to half the total capacitance in the B-C arm to within about  $\pm 0.1\%$  when the setting of the air capacitor is about mid-scale. The coils are designed to give ratios of  $1:1$  or  $2:1$  by switching. The screening of the bridge is similar to that indicated in Fig. 2, and such adjustments and corrections must be made as have already been described.

Apart from the calibration of the  $3180\text{-ohm}$  resistor, this scheme entirely obviates the need for measurements of resistance, which is an advantage. The value of the  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard is determined in terms of the value of the effective conductance in the A-B arm and, provided that the nominal  $3180\text{-ohm}$  resistor and the power factor of the  $0.05\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  capacitor are quite stable, the stability of the  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard is indicated directly from

observations over a period of time of the settings of the variable air-capacitor required to achieve balance. Notes concerning the construction of this  $3180\text{-ohm}$  resistor are given in Section 11.7. The question of the power factor of the parallel  $0.05\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  capacitor, which is a second-order correction, has been discussed in Section 3.11.

It can be assumed that both the temperature and frequency coefficients of the  $0.1\text{-}\mu\text{F}$  standard remain stable with time, so that these can be initially measured independently.

#### (8) CONCLUSIONS

The Wien-comparison-bridge network described provides a convenient and flexible method well suited to industrial application of measuring capacitance within the range  $100 \mu\text{F}$  to  $1 \mu\text{F}$  at audio frequencies. A precision of  $\pm 100$  parts in  $10^6$  or  $\pm 0.1 \mu\text{F}$  can be achieved, whilst relative values can be determined within limits of  $\pm 20$  parts in  $10^6$ .

#### (9) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## (11) APPENDICES

### (11.1) Notes concerning Apparatus

#### 1.1.1) Resistor $R_1$ .

The resistor  $R_1$  has eight decades and is variable in increments of 0.001 ohm from about 0.37 ohm to about 39 999.99(10) ohms. Only three 10 000-ohm coils are present, which minimizes the value of the capacitance of the coils to the screen. The time-constants of  $R_1$  are of the same order as those of  $R_2$ . The last decade is of the shunted-dial type, which provides the means of obtaining very small increments of resistance without introducing appreciable errors arising from switch contacts, provided a residual value of resistance can be tolerated. A series of decades of such resistors may be readily computed by the ingenious method given by Mueller.<sup>1</sup> There was some doubt whether accuracy would be maintained at 1 or 2 kc/s owing to the effect of the relative time-constants of the parallel paths, but this doubt was dispelled following measurements made at 1 kc/s on a specially constructed decade which gave increments of 0.001 ohm. This device had been known for nearly 50 years, and considering the facilities which it offers, it is surprising that it has not become more popular.

#### 1.1.2) Resistor $R_2$ .

The resistor  $R_2$  is similar in construction to  $R_1$  but it has only seven decades, variable in increments of 0.01 ohm from zero to 9999.99 ohms. Since the time-constant of this resistor may introduce a significant correction term (see Section 3.12) the values were determined by the N.P.L. at 1 kc/s and 20° C, from which the values of reactance at 1 kc/s and 2 kc/s were deduced.

#### 1.1.3) Capacitor $C_1$ .

The capacitor  $C_1$  has five dials and is continuously variable from its residual value of 182.2  $\mu\mu\text{F}$  to about 1.0111  $\mu\text{F}$ . The first dial is a variable air capacitor, while the next one is also an air capacitor having nine 100- $\mu\mu\text{F}$  steps. The remaining decades are best-quality mica. Two terminals protrude from the bridge to enable capacitors to be connected in parallel with  $C_1$ .

Since the power factor of  $C_1$  represents a significant correction (see Section 3.11), it becomes necessary for it to be determined at any given setting. This is best done from measurements of

conductance by the step-by-step method.<sup>5</sup> The tabulated values of conductance enable the power factor at any setting to be computed readily.

#### (11.1.4) Zero-balance capacitor.

The function of the zero-balance capacitor is to balance out the residual capacitance of  $C_1$  when using the comparison bridge. It comprises a variable air-capacitor of maximum capacitance 250  $\mu\mu\text{F}$  in parallel with a 150- $\mu\mu\text{F}$  mica capacitor.

#### (11.1.5) Inductive ratio arms.

For those bridge networks to which it is applicable, the tightly-coupled inductive ratio-arm offers many advantages, including the relative ease of initial adjustment to a high degree of accuracy, great stability, and low effective impedance at balance. Essential design features have been summarized by Hague,<sup>8</sup> Clark and Vanderlyne,<sup>12</sup> and Harris<sup>18</sup> and it is sufficient to note that, when the bridge is balanced, the two windings carry currents such that the m.m.f.'s associated with the windings are of equal magnitude and in opposite sense. Under these conditions the windings become virtually non-reactive, so that the effective impedance comprises only the resistance and leakage reactance which, in the present instance, amounts to  $5 + j9.5$  ohms at 1 kc/s, and  $5 + j19$  ohms at 2 kc/s. (The self-inductance is almost 5H and the coupling coefficient is about 99.97%.)

To achieve a 1:1 or, alternatively, a 2:1 ratio, a Permalloy C core is wound with star-quadded wire and connections made as indicated in Figs. 3 and 6. Although this form of

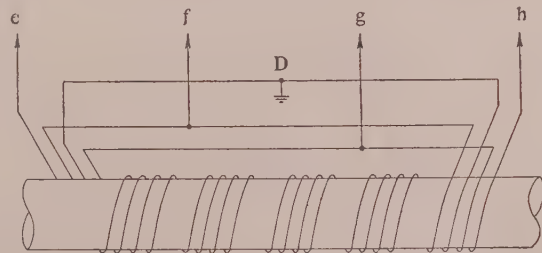


Fig. 6.—Method of winding coils with quadded wire to give 1:1 and 2:1 ratios.

winding results in a large interwinding capacitance, the only effect is a slight reduction in bridge sensitivity, which in any case is quite adequate.

The detector coil is wound symmetrically over the ratio-arm windings, from which it is electrically screened by means of a copper shield. The complete coil is magnetically screened by enclosing it in a Permalloy box.

#### (11.1.6) Switches.

The switching arrangements of the bridge networks are shown in Figs. 2 and 3. There are no special requirements for most of these switches, apart from the usual considerations of screening in order to avoid coupling between contacts, rotors, etc., and ordinary commercially available types of switch have consequently been employed.

The only case in which a high-quality switch is essential is that of the series-parallel device in the A-B arm of the bridge. This switch must have a very low and constant resistance, because it is included in the measurement of  $R_1$ . The design adopted comprises a number of rhodium-plated inserts. This switch forms an integral part of the internal capacitor  $C_1$ .

### (11.2) Method of balancing out Residual Lead Resistances and Inductances in the A-B and B-C Arms of the Wien and Comparison Bridges

With reference to Fig. 7, the object of the Wien-bridge balance is to equate the impedance of the parallel circuit comprising

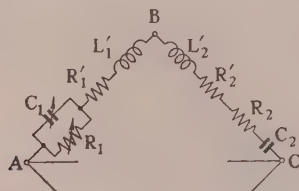


Fig. 7.—Equal-ratio Wien bridge with residual lead resistance  $R_1R_2$  and inductance  $L_1L_2$ .

$C_1R_1$  with that of the series circuit  $C_2R_2$ . To avoid the necessity for correcting for residual lead resistances and inductances, it is consequently desirable to make  $R'_1 = R'_2$  and  $L'_1 = L'_2$ .

The resistive balance (which is not critical) can readily be adjusted by means of d.c. measurements to within limits which involve negligible error. The inductive balance, however, requires very precise adjustment, an unbalance of less than  $0.1 \mu\text{H}$  being desirable. The method of effecting this balance is explained by reference to Fig. 8.

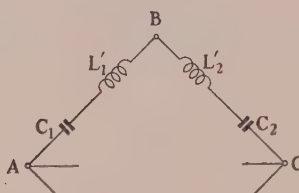


Fig. 8.—Circuit to illustrate method of balancing out residuals  $L'_1$  and  $L'_2$ .

Neglect all resistances and stray capacitances: then  $C_1 = C_2$  if  $L'_1 = L'_2$ .

Thus, by comparing  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  on an auxiliary bridge,  $L'_1$  can be adjusted to equal  $L'_2$ . Such a direct comparison, however, would be invalidated by the effect of stray capacitances, but this difficulty can be overcome by the following device.

The bridge is first balanced with  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  made as low as convenient. A large fixed capacitance  $\Delta C_2$  is then added to  $C_2$  and the bridge rebalanced by increasing  $C_1$  by  $\Delta C_1$ , which is compared with  $\Delta C_2$  by means of the auxiliary bridge. Inductance is then added to one or other bridge arm until  $\Delta C_1 = \Delta C_2$ .

As a practical example, if  $\Delta C_2 = 0.8 \mu\text{F}$ , then, for an unbalance of  $\pm 0.1 \mu\text{H}$ ,  $\Delta C_1 = 0.8 \mu\text{F} \pm 10 \mu\text{F}$  at  $2 \text{ kc/s}$ . An auxiliary capacitance and conductance bridge, of the type described in Reference 2, is available, on which capacitances of this order can be compared to within about  $1 \mu\text{F}$ .

To accommodate any difference of power factor between  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ ,  $R_2$  may be inserted in the B-C arm. This resistor, which has eight decades, can be varied in increments of  $0.001 \text{ ohm}$ . Its last five decades are of constant inductance ( $1.5 \mu\text{F}$  approximately), which may be regarded as part of  $L'_2$ .

If  $R_2$  should tend to negative values, a resistor (probably less than  $1 \text{ ohm}$ ) can temporarily be inserted in series with  $C_1$  in the A-B arm.

When  $R_1$  is switched in parallel with  $C_1$ , the complete circuit of the A-B arm is given in Fig. 9.

$C_1$  is connected to  $R_1$  by means of leads of inductance  $L'_3$

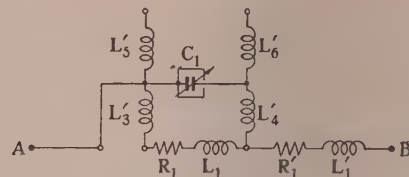


Fig. 9.—Equivalent A-B arms of Wien bridge with switch in "parallel" position.

and  $L'_4$  and to the available top-panel terminals through leads of inductances  $L'_5$  and  $L'_6$ . The value of any one of these inductances is less than  $0.25 \mu\text{H}$ .

In the Wien-bridge balance  $L'_5$  and  $L'_6$  are not in circuit while  $L'_3$ ,  $L'_4$  and  $L_1$ , the inductance of  $R_1$ , have been shown in Section 3.5 to have negligible effect. Hence the only lead inductance to be considered is  $L'_1$ . If, however,  $R_1$  is disconnected from the sub-panel terminals (without changing the series-parallel switch position),  $L'_4$  is now effectively in series with  $C_1$  so that its apparent reactance is  $\left(\omega L'_4 - \frac{1}{\omega C_1}\right)$ . In measuring

by means of the auxiliary bridge, however, if connections are made to the top-panel terminals, its apparent reactance

$\left[\omega(L'_5 + L'_6) - \frac{1}{\omega C_1}\right]$ . If, then, we contrive to make  $L'_4 = (L'_5 + L'_6)$ , the effect of  $L'_4$  is eliminated.

Although  $L'_4$ ,  $L'_5$  and  $L'_6$  cannot be measured individually their values can be deduced to an estimated limit of  $0.05 \mu\text{H}$  from measurements of various combinations with  $L'_3$ , and from considerations of the geometry of the layout. The result obtained are  $L'_4 = L'_5 + L'_6 = 0.23 \mu\text{H}$ .

When the series-parallel switch is set to the series position the bridge is transformed into a capacitance ratio bridge and the circuit of the A-B arm is as shown in Fig. 10. The lead indu

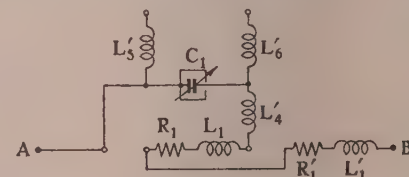


Fig. 10.—Equivalent A-B arm of comparison bridge with switch in "series" position.

In practice it is arranged that  $L'_4 \approx L'_5 + L'_6 \approx 0.23 \mu\text{H}$ .

Inductance  $L'_1$  is now increased by  $L_1 + L'_4$  and a like increment must be inserted in the B-C arm to preserve balance. This adjustment can be effected by employing the same technique as already described. The effect of  $L'_5 + L'_6$  on the apparent value of  $C_1$  as measured by the auxiliary bridge must now be counterbalanced by like inductances connected to  $C_2$ .

This extra increment of inductance only appears in the B-C arm when the series-parallel switch is in the series or comparison bridge position. In the parallel or Wien-bridge position it is short-circuited by a supplementary switch, as indicated in Fig. 11.

### (11.3) Standard-Frequency Source

Many laboratories have adopted the scheme of generating a standard frequency—usually  $1 \text{ kc/s}$ —and distributing the signal through buffer stages to various locations. The source is usually controlled with very great precision (often to a few parts in  $10^6$ ). There is the danger, however, of introducing some phase modulation arising out of disturbances in transmission. The method



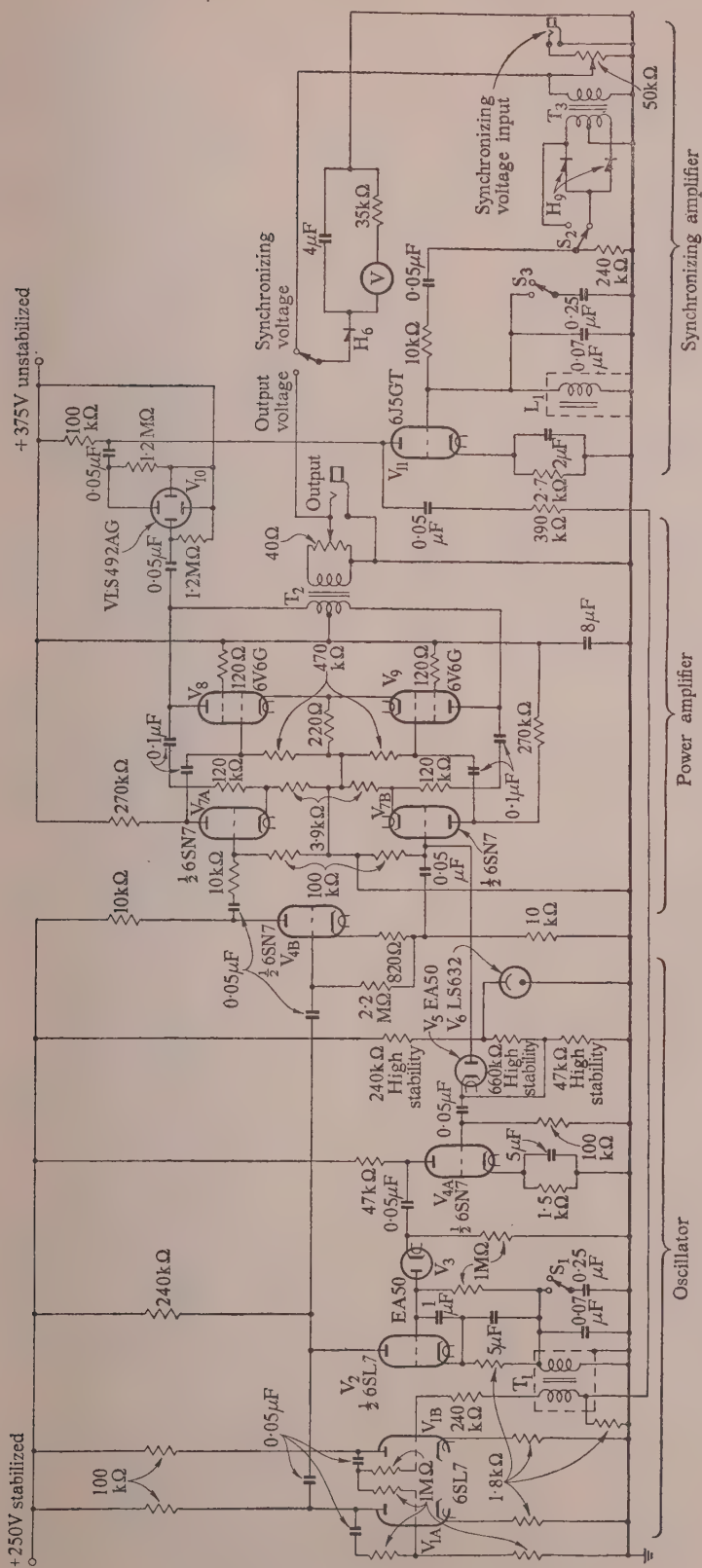


Fig. 11.—Bridge oscillator circuit.

S1 S2 and S3: Ganged switches.

Transformer T<sub>1</sub>: Ratio 2:1.  
Secondary inductance 100 mH.  
Q-factor 50.Transformer T<sub>2</sub>: Ratio 18:1.  
Primary inductance 13 H.Inductance L<sub>1</sub> = 100 mH.  
Q-factor 100.H<sub>6</sub> and H<sub>9</sub>: Miniature selenium rectifiers.

adopted by the authors, of locking a free-running stable oscillator as lightly as possible to the 1-kc/s signal, largely obviates this danger.

Since an accuracy in frequency of 1 part in  $10^6$  would be adequate, an alternative practical scheme would be a bridge oscillator controlled by an internal crystal.

#### (11.4) The Bridge Oscillator

The essential requirements of a suitable Wien-bridge oscillator are as follows:

(a) An output of about 10 volts with an impedance of about 40 ohms. (In practice the oscillator is operated at a level of about 1 volt.)

(b) The harmonic content of the output to be less than 0.3%. (Filters inserted between oscillator and bridge, which reduced this content by 70 db, were found to have no effect on either the bridge balance or its discrimination.)

(c) Convenient means of generating frequencies of 1 kc/s and 2 kc/s which can be locked to a 1-kc/s standard-frequency source, synchronism being observed from a Lissajous figure on a miniature built-in cathode-ray tube.

(d) The intrinsic frequency stability to be of a high order, so that only very light locking is necessary. This helps to obviate phase modulation and noise, inherent in the 1-kc/s standard source.

The circuit of an oscillator which meets this specification is given in Fig. 11. This circuit is based on a more general design, details of which are given in Reference 13.

#### (11.5) Bridge Detector Amplifier

The authors used the detector unit described in Reference 17, but an alternative design which should prove equally suitable has recently been published by Rayner.<sup>20</sup>

#### (11.6) Factors associated with Standard Capacitors

The stability of mica standards of capacitance has recently been examined by Rayner and Ford,<sup>14</sup> and the authors can confirm that at least some of their own standards have given similar high orders of stability. These are certainly better than was believed possible when the present investigation was started in 1945, and the only data available were those given by Garton.<sup>9</sup> Table 3 indicates the magnitude of these drifts.

Capacitors Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are of a well-established commercial type, and although the manufacturers say that they are "sealed in air-tight metal cases" the authors cannot agree that this statement is strictly correct. It soon became evident that such capacitors were affected by humidity, and the variations observed are believed to be mainly due to this cause. The deleterious effect of humidity has been confirmed by Rayner and Ford,<sup>14</sup> who have also noted the beneficial effect on the stability of very thorough drying.<sup>21</sup> The authors accordingly arranged with their own organization to have standards Nos. 4 and 5 constructed, which are truly hermetically sealed. It is too early yet to pass final judgment on the performance of the latter type, but the results to date are at least promising.

Standard capacitors are usually deficient in so far that they have no facility for the insertion of a thermometer. To improve

**Table 3**  
DRIFTS OF CAPACITOR STANDARDS

Calibration date	Drifts deduced from N.P.L. calibrations Standard No.				
	1	2	3	4	5
	1 $\mu$ F	0.1 $\mu$ F	0.01 $\mu$ F	1 $\mu$ F	0.1 $\mu$ F
	Parts in $10^6$ from the initial value				
26. 6.1946 .. ..	0		0		
11. 9.1946 .. ..					
16. 9.1949 .. ..	+10		+1 020		
31. 8.1950 .. ..	+20	0	+110		
7. 2.1951 .. ..	+50	+20	+310		
8.10.1951 .. ..				0	0
11.10.1952 .. ..	+40	+130	+1 860	+20	+20
11. 2.1953 .. ..				+10	-10
Temperature coefficient, parts in $10^6$ per deg C (range 20-25° C) at 1 kc/s	-8	-4	+28	+14	+2

matters the authors have encased their hermetically sealed standards Nos. 4 and 5 (which are rectangular in shape) in heavy brass box having walls 0.5 in thick. The box has detachable top and is lagged with cork 0.625 in thick; a vertical hole drilled into its side enables a thermometer to be inserted. This greatly facilitates accurate observations of temperature.

#### (11.7) Factors Associated with Standard Resistors

Every resistor is something of a strain gauge and consequently more or less unstable. Progress is still being made in the production of strain-free resistors of high stability. The situation so far as the N.P.L. and the N.B.S. are concerned has recently been recounted by Hartshorn,<sup>19</sup> from which it appears that the art of constructing stable strain-free hermetically-sealed resistors has reached a very high level of perfection, drifts on the best coils being only about 1 part in  $10^7$  per annum. Great skill in design and construction, however, is necessary to achieve such results.

From annual N.P.L. measurements made on three commercial standard resistors having values 100, 1 000 and 10 000 ohms over a period of five years, the maximum deviation from the initial value was found to be only 30 parts in  $10^6$ . These resistors are oil-immersed and in canisters, but they are not sealed, and while the results are reassuring, improvements in construction including hermetic sealing, should reduce the drifts still further. Alternative designs,<sup>15,16</sup> which promise almost zero drift, are now also becoming available.

From Sections 3.4 and 7, it should be noted that in the case of a resistor such as  $R_1 = 3\ 183$  ohms, it is necessary to know the a.c. resistance at 1 kc/s, which suggests the desirability of making the ratio of a.c. to d.c. resistance as nearly unity as possible. The time-constant, so long as it is reasonably low, is of minor importance. If a resistor of the requisite high stability for this a.c. application cannot be produced, it will be necessary to check  $R_1$  with direct current against an external standard resistor designed specifically for high stability, without regard to its time-constant.



# THE A.C. IMPEDANCE OF PLASMA DISCHARGES IN MERCURY VAPOUR

By S. E. YUSSUF, Ph.D., Graduate, and Professor J. C. PRESCOTT, D.Eng., Member.

(The paper was first received 3rd September, 1953, and in revised form 9th March, 1954. It was published as an INSTITUTION MONOGRAPH in June, 1954.)

## SUMMARY

Whenever an alternating electric field of small amplitude is applied to a d.c.-sustained plasma discharge, a corresponding alternating component will appear in the discharge current. The discharge path behaves as a conductor of inductive impedance; the inductance and resistance depend on the frequency of the superimposed quantities. The paper deals with the effect of the behaviour of electron and thermal ionization on the impedance of the low- and high-pressure positive columns of a plasma discharge in mercury vapour. The particular characteristics of the positive column in each case are outlined and an expression for the effective impedance per unit length of the column is derived. Typical theoretical and experimental curves of the variation of both components with frequency are given for the low-pressure case. For the high-pressure column the theoretical curves are of a shape similar to those obtained experimentally by Magnold for an arc discharge in mercury vapour. Although Magnold did not give sufficient particulars of the arc discharge investigated for an exact comparison to be made, the theory seems to explain the physical phenomena that take place in the high-pressure positive column.

## (1) LIST OF SYMBOLS

$p$  = Gas pressure, baryes.  
 $T_g$  = Temperature of gas molecules, °K.  
 $T$  = Electron temperature, °K.  
 $e$  = Electron charge, coulombs.  
 $V_i$  = Ionization potential of mercury vapour, electron-volts.  
 $k$  = Boltzmann's constant.  
 $\alpha$  = Rate of production of ions, ions/electron/sec.  
 $D$  = Coefficient of ambipolar diffusion.  
 $N$  = Electron concentration per cubic centimetre in the positive column of the d.c. arc.  
 $\eta$  = Total number of electrons per centimetre length of the positive column.  
 $I$  = Direct arc current, amp.  
 $\mathcal{E}$  = Longitudinal electric field in the d.c. column, volts/cm.  
 $\bar{V}$  = Average thermal energy of positive ions.  
 $\lambda$  = Electron mean free path, cm.  
 $m$  = Electron mass, g.  
 $\mu$  = Electron mobility, cm/sec/volt/cm.  
 $N = n$  = Amplitude of sinusoidal change in electron concentration, per cubic centimetre.  
 $v_0$  = Mean electron velocity, cm/sec.  
 $a$  = Radius of the tube container in the low-pressure column and effective radius of high-pressure column, cm.  
 $N_g$  = Concentration per cubic centimetre of neutral gas molecules.  
 $\alpha_1$  = Coefficient of thermal ionization.  
 $\beta$  = Coefficient of recombination.  
 $F$  = Factor depending upon the probability of ionization.  
 $\sigma$  = Radius of cross-section of collision between neutral molecules, cm.  
 $J$  = Mechanical equivalent of heat, joule/cal.  
 $c_v$  = Specific heat of gas at constant volume, cal/g/°C.  
 $t$  = Time, sec.  
 $S$  = Heat radiated from the surface of the core, cal/cm<sup>2</sup>/T<sup>4</sup>.

## (2) INTRODUCTION

It has been noticed that arc and glow oscillators are difficult to operate at high frequencies, since the arc path then loses the negative resistance necessary for oscillation.<sup>6,7</sup> Also the frequency of oscillation differs from that of the tank circuit as if the arc path is inductive. The presence of an inductive effect in the ionized path can be verified using a cathode-ray oscillograph. If an alternating current of small amplitude is superimposed on a direct-current arc and the alternating voltage developed between the electrodes is applied to the Y-plates and a voltage proportional to the alternating component of the current to the X-plates, an ellipse will appear on the screen. The shape and the slope of the ellipse will change with the frequency of the injected current.

The behaviour of the discharge path may be due to the characteristics of either the positive column or the cathode or of both. Although the behaviour of the positive column has been explained qualitatively to be due to the time lag of ionization,<sup>1</sup> no attempt at a thorough investigation was made. The authors know of only one attempt to investigate the high-pressure positive column of an arc discharge in mercury vapour. This was made by Von Weizel, Rompe and Schulz<sup>2</sup> in an attempt to explain the experimental results of Magnold<sup>3</sup> and was not conclusive. In this paper, the behaviour of the positive column of the mercury-arc discharge at high and at low pressures is considered separately. The high-pressure case is considered first. A theoretical expression for the impedance of the column as a function of frequency is developed. This is then compared with the measurements given by Magnold. The low-pressure case is then considered. Again a theoretical expression for the impedance is developed. In addition, measurements of the impedance were made for a range of conditions and the results are compared with the theory.

The behaviour of the cathode will depend upon the kind of emission obtained from its surface. In 1930 Buchtiger<sup>7</sup> investigated the behaviour of the hot cathode (where thermionic emission occurs) in an arc discharge of very short length, when an alternating current was superimposed on the main direct current. Buchtiger's work was based on a voltage/current static characteristic of the d.c. arc obtained experimentally, and it was then shown that owing to the large thermal capacity of the metal cathode, its inductive effect would be negligible if the operating frequency were above a certain value, depending upon the dimensions and material of the cathode. At higher frequencies the cathode region behaves as a path of constant positive resistance independent of frequency. The same results were obtained by the authors from the starting point of the static voltage/current characteristic derived by Druvestyn and Penning<sup>9</sup> for a hot cathode arc of very short length.

No similar work has been done on the high field-emission type of cathode. Actually no acceptable theory has yet been developed for the phenomena at its cold surface. In the arc discharge in mercury vapour at low pressure, a relatively high voltage appears across the cathode region. A basic assumption of the experimental method adopted in this work is that the behaviour of the cathode region will not materially affect the impedance measured

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between the electrodes. In order to justify this assumption, the positive column under consideration was of considerable length.

### (3) GENERAL PROPERTIES OF THE PLASMA

The term "plasma" is applied to an ionized-gas medium in which the concentration of electrons and positive ions are approximately equal and relatively high.<sup>3</sup> Such a plasma is usually established by an electric field. In a d.c. plasma, the electrons, the positive ions and the neutral molecules are in thermal equilibrium but may not be at the same temperature.<sup>16</sup> The charge carriers in moving along the electric field pick up energy from the field and deliver it to the neutral gas molecules during the collisions which take place between them. This energy, delivered to the gas, escapes by radiation, conduction and convection.

The electrons and the positive ions are continuously lost from the plasma by their volume recombination and their diffusion outwards if there is any charge-carrier concentration gradient. In order to sustain the plasma it is therefore necessary to produce by ionization as many electrons and positive ions as are lost by recombination and diffusion. The mechanism of the ionization process and the way in which the electrons are lost from the volume, together with the temperature of the charged and neutral particles, depend mainly on the gas pressure.<sup>16</sup>

When the pressure is low, say 0.1 cm Hg or less, the electron mean free path is sufficiently long for the electron to absorb a considerable amount of energy from the electric field between each two successive collisions with the neutral gas molecule. The result will be a high electron temperature ( $2 \times 10^4$  °K) while the gas temperature<sup>3</sup> is as low as 30° C. The electrons will then have sufficient energy to ionize the neutral molecules when they collide. In such cases electron ionization is the main process of electron production. The rate of production of electrons per cubic centimetre of the volume will be  $\alpha N$ , the value of  $\alpha$  being a function of the electron temperature.<sup>4,14</sup> Again, with high electron temperatures, direct recombination in the volume between an electron and a positive ion will be unlikely.<sup>3</sup> They will diffuse to the walls of the container, where they deliver their thermal energy and recombine there, releasing the ionization energy.

However, in a high-pressure plasma (0.5 atm or more), the electron mean free path is short, and the temperatures of the electron, the positive ion and the gas are nearly the same (5 to  $6 \times 10^3$  °K). In such cases the ionization process will be purely thermal,<sup>10</sup> and volume recombination accounts for the loss of electrons from the plasma. As thermal ionization depends on the number of collisions between the neutral molecules, the rate of production of electrons per cubic centimetre will be  $\alpha_1 N_g^2$ , the coefficient  $\alpha_1$  depending upon the gas temperature.

#### (3.1) Drift Current through a Plasma

In a plasma sustained by a d.c. electric field, the electrons, the positive ions and the neutral molecules move in random directions. Each kind of particle will have its distribution of velocities, which is usually Maxwellian. However, the electrons being negatively charged will drift with an average velocity or mobility against the direction of the field, and the positive ions will drift in the direction of the field. The total current drawn from the plasma will be the sum of the two drift currents. The positive-ion current is very small and can be neglected compared with that of the electrons, owing to the smaller mass and higher velocities of the electrons. Considering a cylinder of  $1 \text{ cm}^3$  volume and  $1 \text{ cm}^2$  cross-section, placed coaxial with the electric field, the current density of the plasma along the axis will be

$$i = \mu_e N \mathcal{E}$$

Now any change,  $\Delta i$ , in the drift current will be produced by corresponding changes  $\Delta N$  and  $\Delta \mathcal{E}$  or

$$\Delta i = \mu_e \mathcal{E}(\Delta N) + \mu_e N(\Delta \mathcal{E})$$

The change  $\Delta N$  can be produced in one or more of the following ways.

- Electrons pouring into the cylinder in the direction of the axis. In arc discharges, this will correspond to increased emission from the cathode and will not be considered here.
- Changes in the radial flow of electrons and ions, i.e. change in the radial diffusion.
- In this case there are no changes either in the radial or the axial flow of electrons. As a result of the changes in the number of collisions between particles already present in the volume considered, new electrons are formed. It is clear that this will be due to changes in ionization.

In order to show in a clear and simple way the behaviour of diffusion and ionization and their effect on the electron concentration when these changes are sinusoidal, and to reach a better understanding of their physical meaning, each effect will be considered separately.

#### (3.1.1) Effect of Diffusion on Electron Concentration.

Let it be assumed that it is possible to have a cylinder of uniform concentration placed coaxially with a container of relative large radius. If a sinusoidal quantity ( $\Delta \xi e^{j\omega t}$ ) of electrons is introduced into the core, some of these electrons will remain in the core raising the concentration and the rest will diffuse outwards from the boundary surface of the core. The sinusoidal changes due to diffusion alone in the electron concentration at points outside the core along the radius will be defined<sup>3</sup> by

$$\frac{d^2 n}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dn}{dr} = \frac{1}{D} \frac{dn}{dt} = \frac{j\omega}{D} n$$

If this differential equation is solved with the boundary condition  $n = n_1$  at  $r = a$  and the concentration is finite at a very large radius, it is shown in Section 6.1 that the amplitude,  $\Delta q$ , of the number of electrons which alternates outwards and inwards at the boundary surface  $r = a$  will be

$$\Delta q = \pi D n_1 [1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}] / j\omega$$

and

$$\Delta q / \Delta \xi = D [1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}] / j\omega \left\{ a^2 + \frac{D}{j\omega} [1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}] \right\}$$

Fig. 1 shows the variation of  $\Delta q / \Delta \xi$  against frequency for different values of the coefficient of diffusion  $D$ . The shape

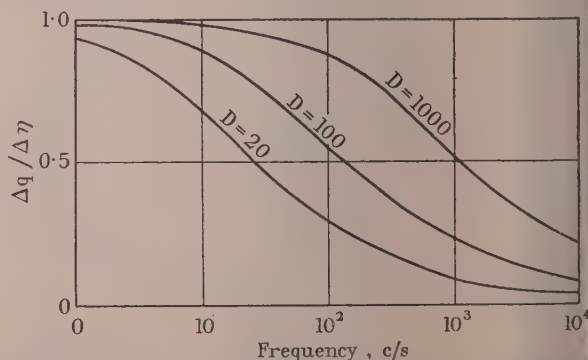


Fig. 1.—Curves illustrating the change with frequency in the ratio of the number of diffusing electrons to the number introduced in the volume.



curves will not be difficult to explain if it is remembered that electron needs a certain time to diffuse from the core. When frequency is low and the periodic time is long,  $\Delta q/\Delta \xi = I$ , the electrons introduced in the core will diffuse and will be changed between the core and its surroundings. However, as frequency is increased the periodic time is shorter and only a portion of the electrons introduced will be able to get out of the core. At very high frequencies, practically no electrons will take part in the exchange, and the introduced electrons will be utilized to raise the concentration in the core, which will then be  $= \Delta \xi/\pi a^2$  as  $\omega \rightarrow \infty$ .

The effect of the coefficient of diffusion  $D$  is clear. For large values of  $D$ , i.e. higher electron velocities, the diffusing electrons will follow the rapid changes more readily, and diffusion comes to occur at higher frequencies than when  $D$  is small.

From the above it is seen that the effect of diffusion on the electron concentration can safely be neglected in the high-pressure plasma as  $D \simeq 3$ , and the order of frequency which be considered is above 500 c/s.

## (2) Effect of Ionization on Electron Concentration.

In order to show the effect of ionization alone, let a cubic centimetre, of uniform concentration  $N$ , be considered. In the case of a low-pressure plasma the ionization process will be performed by electrons. If there is no loss of charge from the volume either by diffusion or recombination, the electron concentration will continue to rise at a rate proportional to  $N$  or  $dn/dt = \alpha N$ . If now a number of electrons varying sinusoidally,  $n e^{j\omega t}$ , is extracted from the volume, the original rate of rise of concentration will be reduced. In order to combat this reduction an increase,  $\Delta \alpha e^{j\omega t}$ , in the value of  $\alpha$  would be necessary. The original rate of rise of concentration would be restored by the relation

$$(N - n)(\alpha + \Delta \alpha) - \frac{dn}{dt} = \frac{dN}{dt} = \alpha N$$

satisfied. As the changes are sinusoidal, then

$$(N - n)(\alpha + \Delta \alpha) - j\omega n = \alpha N$$

neglecting the term of second order we obtain

$$n = \frac{N\Delta \alpha}{\alpha + j\omega}$$

From the above expression it is seen that the number of electrons, introduced by ionization and available for extraction from the volume, diminishes with increased frequency. Furthermore, it is behind the change  $\Delta \alpha$ , the lag increasing with frequency.

A similar treatment indicates the same physical behaviour in the case of a high-pressure plasma when the ionization is thermal. In this case if there is no recombination or diffusion, the rate of rise of electron concentration will be  $dN/dt = \alpha_1 N_g^2$ . If now  $\alpha_1$  increased by a small value  $\Delta \alpha_1$ , the change in the rate of rise will be

$$\Delta(\alpha_1 N_g^2) = 2\alpha_1 N_g (\Delta N_g) + N_g^2 (\Delta \alpha_1)$$

To restore the rate of rise to its original value, a quantity  $\Delta N$  of electrons should be extracted from the volume such that

$$\Delta(\alpha_1 N_g^2) - \frac{d}{dt}(\Delta N) = 0$$

If the changes are sinusoidal

$$2\alpha_1 N_g (\Delta N_g) + N_g^2 (\Delta \alpha_1) - j\omega (\Delta N) = 0$$

But as  $N_g + N = N_0$ , the normal concentration of the gas,  $\Delta N_g$ , equals  $-\Delta N$ , whence

$$\Delta N = \frac{N_g^2 (\Delta \alpha_1)}{2\alpha_1 N_g + j\omega}$$

From this it is seen that whether the ionization is performed by electrons or by neutral molecules, its effect on the electron concentration will depend on the frequency. At low frequencies, the periodic time is long enough for all the capable particles to take part in the ionization process. However, as the frequency is increased, only the higher-speed particles will be able to do so. At very high frequencies the changes are so rapid that very few of the particles will be able to take part in the ionization process and  $\Delta N = 0$ ; thus no changes in electron concentration will be produced.

## (4) APPLICATION TO ARC DISCHARGES

A notable example of the plasma is the positive column of the arc discharge. However, a part of the voltage appearing between the electrodes of the arc will be developed across the cathode region. The changes in the current due to any change in the arc voltage, and therefore the effective impedance of the path, will be governed by the behaviour of either the positive column at the cathode or of both.

The cathode of an arc discharge may be either of the high-field-emission type or the hot-cathode type when thermionic emission occurs, depending upon the material of the cathode.<sup>6,3</sup> The behaviour of the hot cathode when an alternating current of small amplitude was superimposed on the d.c. arc of short length has been investigated by Buchtiger<sup>7</sup> and recently by the authors. It was found that the effective impedance of such an arc will be inductive at very low frequencies (1 c/s) and changes to a constant positive resistance at higher frequencies (above 80 c/s) depending upon the material and dimensions of the cathode. No similar work has been done on the field-emission-type cathode. However, the behaviour of the cold cathode can be masked to a certain extent if the length of positive column is increased considerably.

Since there are large differences in character and behaviour between the low-pressure and the high-pressure positive columns, each will be considered separately.

### (4.1) Positive Column of a High-Pressure D.C. Arc in Mercury Vapour

#### (4.1.1) General.

The positive column is a region of uniform but relatively high potential gradient, the value of which depends on the arc current and nature of the gas. In regions far away from the electrodes, where their cooling effect is small, the gas temperature in the column is high, of the order of 5 to 6  $\times 10^3$  °K. With the pressure encountered the mean free path is short, and the electrons and positive ions will have practically the same temperature<sup>16</sup> as that of the gas molecules ( $T = T_g$ ).

Besides the neutral gas molecules, each unit volume in the column contains an equal number of electrons and ions. The electron concentration is usually high, about  $10^{14}$  per cubic centimetre. In steady states, the electron concentration per cubic centimetre of the column was found by Saha to be  $N^2/N_g = AT^3/2e^{-eV_0/kT}$ , where  $A$  is a constant. Although the Saha expression was originally derived for the thermal ionization in the solar atmosphere and based on thermodynamical reasoning, yet he pointed out its possible application in arcs.

The validity of the Saha expression in high-pressure arc discharges was justified in the lengthy and careful analysis of Ornstein.<sup>10</sup> Considering a Maxwellian distribution of particle



velocities, the process of ionization in the column was shown to be a thermal and reversible process. Two high-speed neutral molecules, with enough energy between them, can produce an electron and a positive ion when colliding with each other. The rate of ionization will then be  $\alpha_1 N_g^2$ . The completely reversible process of recombination will be a double collision. The electron and positive ion when colliding with each other will form a neutral molecule with a surplus energy equal to the ionization energy. Such a molecule must then collide with another neutral molecule to get rid of its surplus energy. The rate of recombination will then be  $\beta N_g N^2$ . The rate of increase of electron concentration in the column will be given by

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \alpha_1 N_g^2 - \beta N_g N^2$$

For a d.c. arc,  $dN/dt = 0$  and

$$\alpha_1/\beta = N^2/N_g = AT^{3/2}e^{-eV_d/kT} \quad (5)$$

The coefficient of thermal ionization,  $\alpha_1$ , can be determined from the number of collisions between neutral molecules of the proper velocities. It was given by Ornstein to be

$$\alpha_1 = 8F\sigma^2\sqrt{(\pi kT/M)}e^{-eV_d/kT} \quad (6)$$

The coefficient of recombination  $\beta$  can be obtained from eqns. (5) and (6).

#### (4.1.2) Temperature and Radius of the Positive Column.

The electrons and positive ions absorb a certain amount of energy from the source sustaining the discharge as they drift axially in the electric field. The power input to the column balances the various losses.<sup>3,9</sup> These losses are mainly due to the diffusion of the charged particles from the column outwards, carrying their thermal and ionization energies, and to the heat lost by the hot gas by convection, conduction and radiation. The cooling effect of the convection currents can be eliminated if the tube containing the arc is placed horizontally.

The proportion of the heat conducted depends upon the kind of gas. In certain gases, the radiation spectrum from the column consists of bands of wavelengths separated by regions of no radiation. In such cases the heat radiated is small while that conducted is fairly large. However, for an arc in mercury vapour it was found by Elinbass<sup>11</sup> that the radiation spectrum is almost uniform, and the heat radiation is over 70% of the input.

Owing to the continuous cooling at the boundary of the column, the gas temperature at points along the radius of the container will not be uniform. This radial temperature variation will cause a radial change in electron concentration. However, the positive column has been treated in general as a core of uniform concentration, and of an effective radius and temperature depending on the value of the arc current. The effective temperature and radius of the core have been determined experimentally.<sup>12,13</sup> An approximate method of determining these values for an arc in mercury vapour will now be given, based upon the following assumptions:

(a) The core of the arc burns axially in a horizontal container to eliminate the effect of the convection currents.

(b) The total heat radiated from the positive column will be considered as radiated from the core. Actually there is a certain amount of heat radiated from the gas between the core and the walls of the container. This radiation will be neglected since it depends on  $T^4$  and the temperature decreases rapidly.

Consider a cylinder of radius  $r$ , and thickness  $dr$ ; then the amount of heat conducted per second is

$$Q = -K2\pi r dT/dr \quad (7)$$

The coefficient of thermal conductivity,  $K$ , in mercury vapour was given by Elinbass as

$$K = 2.1 \times 10^{-7} T^{3/4} \text{ thermal mho/cm}$$

Substituting  $K$  in eqn. (7) and integrating

$$\log r = -\frac{7.536}{Q} \times 10^{-7} T^{7/4} + C$$

The constant  $C$  can be determined if the radius and temperature of the walls of the container are known.

If we consider the total arc current to be carried by electrons only, then in the case of a uniform concentration in the core,

$$I = \pi r^2 \mu e N \mathcal{E}$$

But the electron concentration as given by the Saha expression

$$N^2 = N_g AT^{3/2} e^{-eV_d/kT}$$

Therefore 
$$r = \sqrt{\left[ \frac{I}{\pi \mu e \mathcal{E} \sqrt{(AN_g T^{3/2} e^{-eV_d/kT})}} \right]}$$

The point of intersection of the two  $T/r$  curves defined eqns. (8) and (9) will give the effective radius and temperature of the positive column. The two curves were calculated for a column placed in a tube of 1 cm radius under the following conditions, which were the same as those of Elinbass:  $I = 5$  am,  $\mathcal{E} = 8$  volts/cm,  $Q = 10$  watts, and the temperature of walls atmospheric pressure was 900° C. Fig. 2 shows the approximate

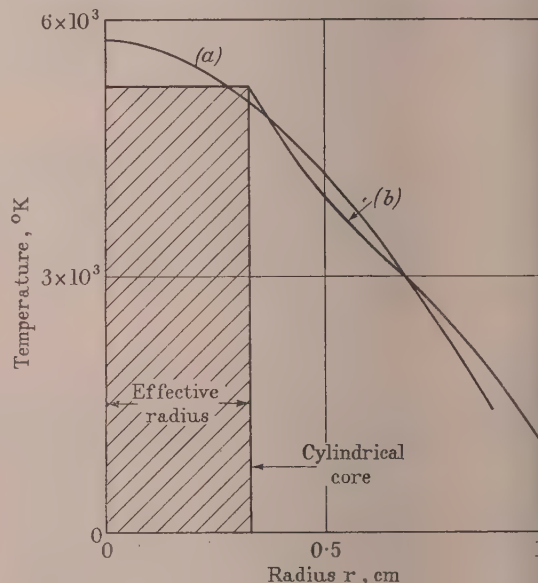


Fig. 2.—Temperature change along the radius of the tube containing the arc.

(a) Exact by Elinbass.  
(b) Approximate.

temperature distribution along the radius, together with the one given by Elinbass. The assumptions previously made do seem to have altered the final results to any great extent.

#### (4.1.3) Impedance of the Positive Column to Alternating Currents.

Before the mathematical analysis, it is useful to consider the expected behaviour of the column when an alternating current is superimposed on the direct current. If the arc current is made to vary sinusoidally at a very small rate, the gas temperature



electron concentration and the electric field would be expected to undergo similar sinusoidal changes. During the cycle, the positive column would then move from one state of thermal equilibrium to another, obeying the Saha and Maxwell laws. Whenever it passed the temperature  $T$ , it would always have the electron concentration given by Saha and the same number of electrons at a specified energy level as given by Maxwell.

As the ionization in the column is purely thermal the electrons will play only an indirect part in the ionization process. When the electric field is rising above its d.c. value, the electrons are accelerated and transfer their energy to the gas molecules without producing ionization. The average temperature of the gas will therefore increase, resulting in an increase of the thermal ionization and the electron concentration. When the electric field falls below its mean value, recombination takes place, producing molecules with surplus energy which will collide with other molecules to lose that energy. The ionization cycle would then be reversible.

This state of affairs can only be maintained if the rate of change with time is so slow that all the molecules capable of doing so take part in the ionization process. However, if the frequency is increased, the rate of change of electron concentration will be higher than the average rate of production of electrons. The slower molecules will fail to transfer their energy to ionize other molecules, and only the faster molecules will be able to do so. As the frequency is increased further, fewer molecules will take part in the ionization process. At very high frequencies the number of ionizing collisions are too small for any change of electron concentration to occur.

The impedance per unit length of a conducting path is  $\Delta\mathcal{E}/\Delta I$ . To evaluate this expression in the dynamic case, for the positive column of an arc in mercury vapour, the following assumptions are made:

(a) The positive column can be represented by a cylindrical core of uniform electron concentration and temperature placed axially in a horizontal tube to eliminate the cooling effect of convection currents.

(b) The ionization process is a completely reversible one, as shown by Ornstein, and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} dN/dt &= \alpha_1 N_g^2 - \beta N_g N^2 \\ &= \beta N_g \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{\beta} N_g - N^2 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

At the steady state

$$\begin{aligned} dN/dt &= 0 \\ \alpha_1/\beta &= N^2/N_g = AT^3/2e^{-eV_d/kT} = f(T) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

(c) The frequency of operation is so high that the effect of diffusion can be neglected.

(d) The frequency of operation is so high that the exchange of heat by conduction between the column and its surroundings in the dynamic case is negligible. This assumption is nearly true since the differential equation for heat conduction is the same as that for diffusion, and the coefficient of thermal conductivity of gases is small.

If the vapour temperature is made to vary sinusoidally by  $T e^{j\omega t}$ , the electron concentration will undergo similar changes  $N e^{j\omega t}$ . A relation between  $\Delta N$  and  $\Delta T$  can be obtained by differentiating eqns. (10) and (5) and substituting the steady-state value

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta N &= N_g \Delta(\alpha_1/\beta) / [(\alpha_1/\beta) + 2N + j\omega/(BN_g)] \\ &= \frac{N_g f'(T)}{\frac{\alpha_1}{\beta} + 2N + j\omega/(BN)} \Delta T \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

the electron velocities in the column are much higher than those of the positive ions as they have a smaller mass. The total arc

current can be assumed to be carried by electrons only and to be given by

$$I = \pi a^2 N \mu_e \mathcal{E}$$

Introducing the small alternating changes,  $\Delta I e^{j\omega t}$  and  $\Delta \mathcal{E} e^{j\omega t}$ , to the current and electric field, respectively

$$\Delta I = \frac{I}{N} \Delta N + \frac{I}{\mathcal{E}} \Delta \mathcal{E}$$

or

$$\Delta N = \frac{N}{I} \left( \Delta I - \frac{I}{\mathcal{E}} \Delta \mathcal{E} \right) \quad (12)$$

For conservation of energy, the change,  $\Delta \mathcal{E} I$ , in the power input per centimetre to the column should be equal to the change in the various losses. These are as follows:

(a) Heat should be supplied to the gas to raise its temperature by an amount  $\Delta T$ . The rate of supply of electrical energy will be  $j\omega I m g C_V \Delta T = j\omega h \Delta T$ .

(b) To increase the electron concentration by  $\Delta N$  the gas molecules must absorb from the supply the necessary ionization energy. The rate of supply of electrical energy will be  $j\omega \pi a^2 e V_i \Delta N = j\omega g N \Delta N$ .

(c) If the amount of heat conducted to the outer layers surrounding the core is neglected in the dynamic case, the rest of the power input to the column will be radiated. In the steady state, the heat radiated per second per centimetre length of a column at a temperature  $T$  is  $J 2\pi a S T^4$ . The heat radiated in the dynamic case will be  $8J\pi a S T^3 \Delta T = C \Delta T$ .

Summing up,  $\Delta(\mathcal{E} I) = \mathcal{E} \Delta I + I \Delta \mathcal{E}$

$$= (C + j\omega h) \Delta T + j\omega g \Delta N \quad (13)$$

The variables  $\Delta T$  and  $\Delta N$  can be eliminated between eqns. (11), (12) and (13). Rearranging,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta \mathcal{E}}{\Delta I} &= - \frac{\mathcal{E}}{I} \\ &= \frac{1 - \frac{N}{\mathcal{E} I} \left\{ j\omega g + \frac{(C + j\omega h) [(\alpha_1/\beta) + 2N + j\omega/(BN_g)]}{N_g f'(T)} \right\}}{1 + \frac{N}{\mathcal{E} I} \left\{ j\omega g + \frac{(C + j\omega h) [(\alpha_1/\beta) + 2N + j\omega/(BN_g)]}{N_g f'(T)} \right\}} \end{aligned}$$

The above expression for the impedance can be split into a resistive and a reactive component. If the latter is divided by  $j\omega$  it will give an effective inductance per centimetre of the column. The two components are calculated and plotted against frequency in Fig. 3 for a positive column having the following values:

Gas pressure	..	..	..	Atmospheric
Length of column	..	..	..	3 cm
Direct arc current	..	..	..	5 amp
Longitudinal electric field, $\mathcal{E}$	..	..	..	8 volts/cm
Effective radius, $a$	..	..	..	0.33 cm
Effective temperature	..	..	..	5 250° K
Heat radiated in the d.c. case	..	..	..	30 watts

In Fig. 4 the calculated resistance/frequency curve is drawn, together with the experimental one obtained by Magnold, on the same frequency scale.

#### (4.2) Positive Column of the Low-Pressure D.C. Arc in Mercury Vapour

##### (4.2.1) General.

The positive column of the low-pressure arc occupies nearly all the space between the electrodes except a narrow region near the cathode. It is a region of almost uniform longitudinal voltage gradient of a magnitude which is dependent upon the arc current and the vapour pressure.<sup>3</sup> Besides the neutral vapour molecules,



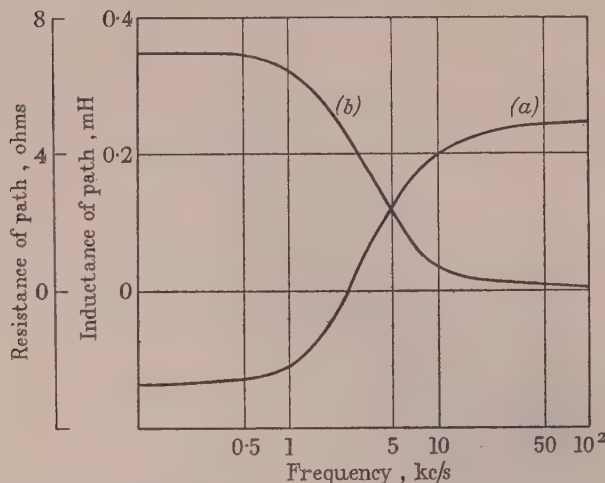


Fig. 3.—Calculated resistance and inductance of a 3cm 5-amp d.c. positive column at atmospheric pressure.

(a) Resistance.  
(b) Inductance.

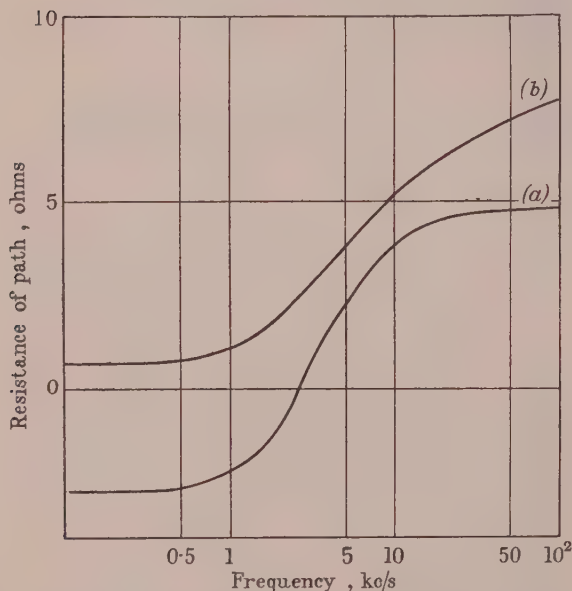


Fig. 4.—Calculated resistance of a 3cm 5-amp positive column at atmospheric pressure, compared with the experimental results obtained by Magnold.

(a) Calculated.  
(b) Experimental by Magnold.

each cubic centimetre of the positive column contains an equal number of electrons and positive ions moving at random in all directions. However, the electrons being negatively charged drift with an average velocity or mobility towards the anode, while the positive ions drift towards the cathode. At the walls of the tube containing the arc, electrons and ions continuously recombine. Such recombination sets up a charged-particle concentration gradient along the radius of the tube. Electrons and ions will diffuse from the column to the walls under the effect of this gradient. The number<sup>3</sup> of charged particles per square centimetre per second diffusing in a direction normal to the flow will be  $-DdN/dr$  at any radius  $r$ . The total number of

ions and electrons diffusing to the wall per centimetre per second will be  $-2\pi aD(dN/dr)_{r=a}$ . Besides diffusion, the loss of ions and electrons in the column may be due to their direct recombination when they collide with each other. However, in low-pressure arcs the effect of volume recombination is small and can be neglected.

For the positive column to be sustained, electrons and ions have to be produced in the column at the same rate as they are lost by diffusion. In low-pressure arcs the process of ionization is performed mainly by electron collisions with the neutral vapour molecules. Considering the electrons to have a Maxwellian distribution of velocities, and ionization to occur at a single impact, Killian<sup>4</sup> gave the rate of ionization per second per electron in mercury vapour as

$$\alpha = 6.24 \times 0.28 \times 10^5 \frac{P}{T_s} \sqrt{(T)} \left( V_i + \frac{2kT}{e} \right) e^{-eV_i/kT}$$

$\alpha$  and  $D$  determine the electron concentration at different points along the radius of the tube container. In cases when the vapour pressure is high enough to neglect Langmuir<sup>5</sup> space charges on the walls, Schottky<sup>1</sup> defined the concentration of electrons per cubic centimetre by the equation

$$\frac{d^2N}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dN}{dr} + \frac{\alpha}{D} N = \frac{1}{D} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

For a d.c. column  $dN/dt = 0$ , and the solution will be given by the Bessel function  $N = N_0 J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$ . As the container is of insulating material, the concentration falls to zero at the walls where  $r = a$ . The total number of electrons per centimetre

length of the column will be  $\eta = \int_0^a 2\pi r N dr$ . The charge

carried by the particles in the column drift towards the electrodes carrying a current  $I$  in the electric field  $\mathcal{E}$ . The power input  $\mathcal{E}I$  per centimetre of the column is dissipated in two forms.<sup>4</sup> A part  $P_1$  is transferred from the charged particles to the neutral molecules in the various collisions that take place between them. Most of this power is transferred by the electrons as they make a great number of collisions with the neutral molecules than do the positive ions. These collisions are either elastic, when the electron loses a small fraction of its energy at impact, or inelastic when it loses a fixed amount of energy depending on the kind of excitation produced. If, on the average, the electron loses a fraction  $f$  of its energy at each impact, and considering a Maxwellian distribution of electron velocities, the rate of transfer of energy from the electrons to the vapour molecules will be<sup>3</sup>

$$P_1 = \frac{2mf}{\lambda\sqrt{\pi}} v_0^3 \eta = H\eta T^{3/2} \quad \text{where} \quad H = \frac{2f(2K)^{3/2}}{\lambda\sqrt{(\pi m)}}$$

Most of this power is conducted through the gas to the walls of the container and the rest is radiated.

The remaining part  $P_2$  of the input power is delivered by the charged particles to the walls when they reach it, as a result of diffusion and recombination releasing their ionization energy,  $eV_p$

$$P_2 = \alpha\eta(V_i + kT + V_p)$$

The value of  $P_2$  is usually less than 7–8% of the total input power except in cases when the vapour pressure is very low. Then

$$P = P_1 + P_2$$

#### (4.2.2) Effective Impedance.

The impedance of a conducting path is the rate of change of the voltage divided by the current. For a unit length of the column, the impedance will be  $\Delta\mathcal{E}/\Delta I$ . Before any attempt

ade to derive this impedance let us consider how the current in the column changes with alterations in the electric field. Increasing the electric field will increase the electron temperature, the electrons will pick up more energy in between each two successive collisions with the neutral vapour molecules. This will result in a higher rate of production of ions. Some of the electrons so produced will diffuse to the walls of the container and the rest will remain in the column to be collected by the electrodes. The change in the current depends mainly on the electron temperature and on the number of electrons per centimetre of the column.

If the above changes are sinusoidal, the time element has to be taken into account. For low frequencies the periodic time is long enough for all the capable electrons to transfer the energy they gained from the varying field to the neutral molecules and ionize them. Again, the increasing number of electrons will have sufficient time to diffuse from the column outwards to the walls. However, as the frequency is increased and the periodic time is reduced, the above changes will be incomplete. The number of electrons taking part in the ionization process will be reduced, since it will be limited to the higher-speed electrons. Similarly, the number of diffusing electrons will be less if the periodic time is short. At very high frequencies the electron concentration will not change, and it will remain constant, independent of the rapidly varying electric field.

In order to put the above picture in mathematical form, it will be necessary to determine the alternating changes in electron concentration for a corresponding change in the electric field. The radial electron concentration was defined by Schottky to be

$$\frac{d^2N}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dN}{dr} + \frac{\alpha}{D} N = \frac{1}{D} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

the d.c. column  $dN/dt = 0$  and  $N = N_0 I_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$ . Assuming coefficient of diffusion  $D$  to remain constant for small alternating changes of electron temperature, the alternating concentration  $ne^{j\omega t}$  is shown in Section 6 to be defined by

$$\frac{d^2n}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dn}{dr} + \frac{\alpha - j\omega}{D} n + \frac{\Delta\alpha}{D} N = 0 \quad (14)$$

the walls of the container there will be no changes of electron concentration, the wall being an insulator, i.e.  $(n=0)_{r=a}$ . Solving the differential eqn. (14), we obtain

$$n = \frac{\Delta\alpha}{j\omega} N_0 I_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$$

The change in the total number of electrons per centimetre length will be

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\eta &= \int_0^a 2\pi r n dr = \frac{\Delta\alpha}{j\omega} \eta \\ &= \frac{\eta(d\alpha/dT)}{j\omega} \Delta T \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Considering the total current to be carried by electrons only,

$$I = \mu e \eta \mathcal{E}$$

and for small sinusoidal changes

$$\Delta I = \frac{I}{\mathcal{E}} \Delta \mathcal{E} + \frac{I}{\eta} \Delta \eta \quad (16)$$

Considering the power input  $\mathcal{E}I$ , per centimetre of the column, the part  $P_2$  (about 7-8%) given to the walls can be neglected, especially when the periodic time is too short for diffusion to

occur. The changes in the power input will be due to the changes in the power delivered to the gas, or

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\mathcal{E}I) &= \Delta(P_1) = \Delta(HT^{3/2}\eta) \\ &= \frac{3\mathcal{E}I}{2T} \Delta T + \frac{\mathcal{E}I}{\eta} \Delta \eta \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

The value of  $\Delta\eta$  was determined from eqn. (15). Eliminating  $\Delta\eta$  and  $\Delta T$  between eqns. (15), (16) and (17), rearranging and putting  $A = 3/2T(d\alpha/dT)$

$$\frac{\Delta \mathcal{E}}{\Delta I} = \frac{\mathcal{E}}{I} \frac{j\omega A}{2 + j\omega A} = \frac{\mathcal{E}}{I} \left( \frac{\omega^2 A^2}{4 + \omega^2 A^2} + j\omega \frac{2A}{4 + \omega^2 A^2} \right) = R + j\omega L$$

#### (4.2.3) Experimental Investigations.

The experimental work carried out was intended to determine and investigate the following:

(a) Measurement of the electron temperature and electric field in the column of a certain direct arc current. These values are used to calculate the derived expression for the dynamic impedance of a column of known length.

(b) To investigate the effect of the length of the column on the impedance.

(c) To determine the behaviour of the impedance with frequency for different values of the direct arc current and vapour pressure.

The discharge apparatus shown in Fig. 5 was specially designed. It consisted of two 2 in.-diameter tubes, 150 cm and 75 cm long,

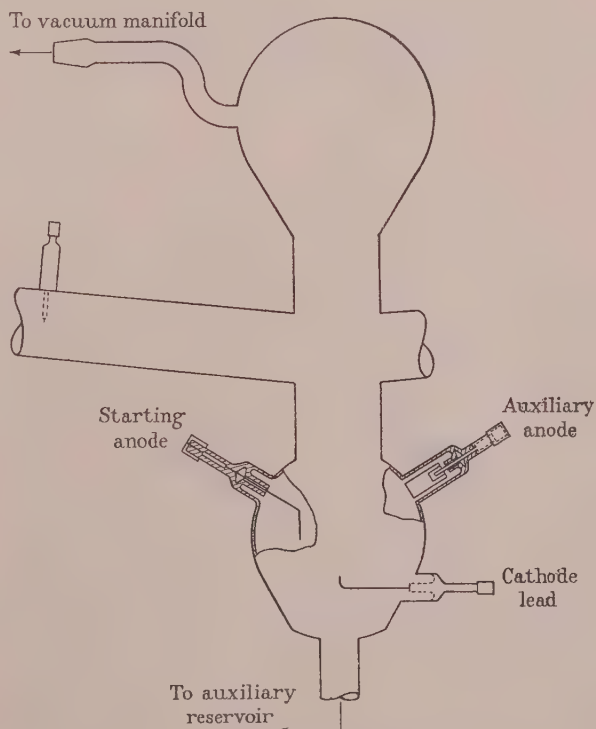


Fig. 5.—Discharge apparatus.

respectively. Both tubes had a common mercury pool cathode. Two molybdenum wire probes, as shown in Fig. 6, each of 0.0314 cm<sup>2</sup> collecting area, were fixed in each tube for determination of electron temperature, concentration and electric field along the axis of the tube. In addition, a movable probe (see Fig. 7), fitted with a piece of soft iron and an electromagnet was provided in the 150 cm tube so as to give the electron concentration



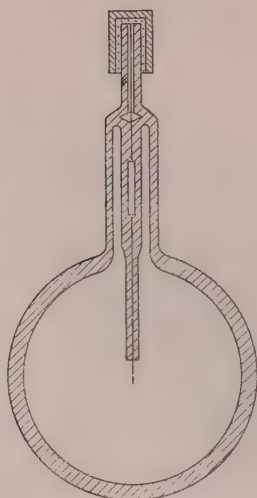


Fig. 6.—Fixed probe.

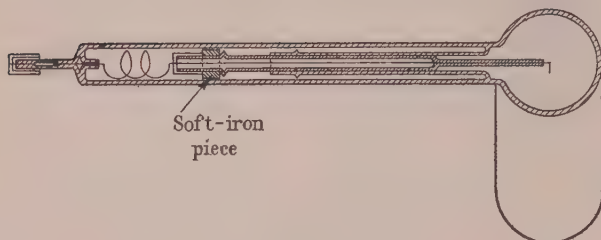


Fig. 7.—Movable probe in the 150cm tube.

and radial electric field at different points along the diameter. The probes were 8 in and 12 in apart in the short and long tube respectively. The temperature of the walls was measured using a calibrated nickel wire wound round the tube. The vapour temperature was taken to be that of the walls. An electric mat heater was wound round each tube to prevent the condensation of the vapour on the walls when the cathode-pool temperature was higher than that of the room.

The lower bulb containing the mercury pool was placed in a water bath and kept at the required temperature using a thermostat control. The bulb was provided with three electrodes. The lower one immersed in mercury was used as a cathode lead. One of the top electrodes was used as an auxiliary anode, and the other for starting. Starting was effected by changing the level of the mercury in the pool to make and break the starting anode circuit, using an auxiliary mercury reservoir. The whole apparatus was continuously evacuated by a mercury diffusion pump backed with a rotary oil pump.

Before any test was carried out, the lower bulb was partially filled with mercury and the apparatus evacuated. A heavy discharge current was then passed in each tube to ensure complete degassing of the electrodes. This was carried out on five runs of eight hours each. In between the tests which followed, the apparatus was always under vacuum and no air was allowed to enter. Two groups of tests were made; the first at a vapour pressure corresponding to a bath temperature of 20° C, and the second at 40° C. The group contained a series of tests carried on each of three different direct arc currents, namely 1.5, 2.5 and

4 amp. The discharge current was passed through one of the two tubes, and the electron temperature, the electric field and effective impedance at different frequencies were measured for each current. The tests were then repeated when the current was passing in the second tube. Each separate type of measurement is discussed below.

#### (4.2.4) Determination of Electron Temperature and Electric Field.

Considering each tube separately, the arc current was adjusted to the required value and kept constant during the run of measurements.

Readings of the current collected by each of the fixed probes were taken for different values of its potential relative to that of the cathode, the other probes being left unconnected. The readings were used to determine the electron concentration, temperature and the longitudinal electric field along the axis of the tube. For the complete theory of probe measurements reference is made to the works of Killian and Langmuir.<sup>4,5</sup> The characteristics of the two fixed probes in the short tube are given in Fig. 8 for an arc current of 1.5 amp at 40° C bath temperature.

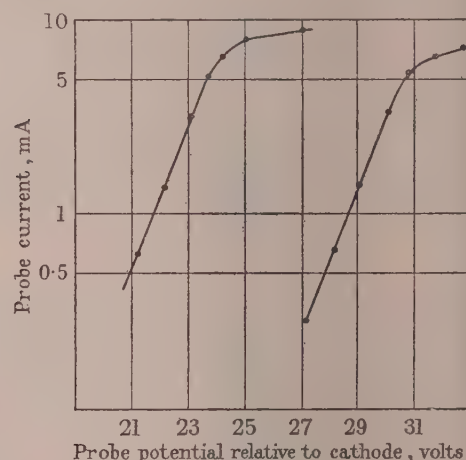


Fig. 8.—Characteristics of the two fixed probes in the 75 cm tube

Arc current .. .. . 1.5 amp  
Bath temperature .. .. . 40° C  
Distance apart of the two probes .. .. . 8 in

The voltage/current characteristics of the movable probe were then taken for different positions of the probe along the tube diameter. The electron concentration and radial electric field at different points along the diameter of the 150 cm tube are given in Figs. 9 and 10 respectively for a 1.5-amp arc current at 40° C bath temperature. The experimental results agree with the Schottky equation and with the results of both Killian and Langmuir.

#### (4.2.5) Measurement of the Effective Impedance.

A small alternating current of about 100 mA and of adjustable frequency was injected into the arc path from a power amplifier. The impedance of the arc path was then measured on the bridge, shown in Fig. 11, for different frequencies of the injected current. A choke coil was placed in series with the d.c. source to eliminate its shunting effect. When the bridge is balanced the effective resistance of the arm containing the arc is  $R = C_1 R_1$  and its inductance is  $L = C_2 R_1 R_2$ . This bridge was converted since the capacitance arms were used to block the d.c. path. The measurements were independent of the frequency, the impedance of the arc path being low, the effect of the stray capacitances was negligible. The main difficulty was due

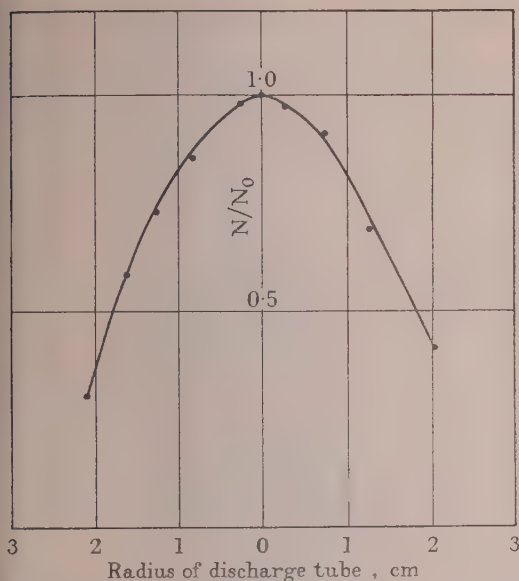


Fig. 9.—Change of electron concentration along the radius of the tube container.

Arc current .. .. . 1.5 amp  
Bath temperature .. .. . 40° C

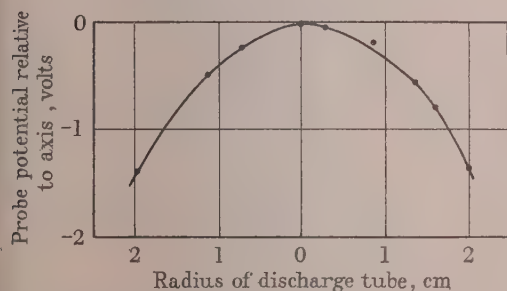


Fig. 10.—Difference in potential between points along the radius and the axis of the tube container.

Arc current .. .. . 1.5 amp  
Bath temperature .. .. . 40° C

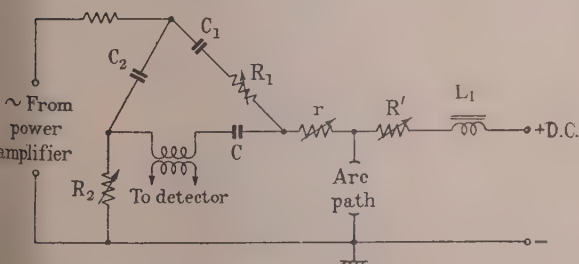


Fig. 11.—Circuit used for the measurement of the effective impedance of the arc path.

$R'$  = Limiting resistor to change the value of the direct arc current.  
 $L_1$  = Choke to eliminate the shunting effect of the d.c. supply.  
 $r$  = Small variable resistor in series with the arc path in the a.c. circuit.  
 $C$  = Blocking condenser.

The noise voltage appearing between the arc electrodes. The detector was designed to be an amplifier with a bridge-output circuit, one arm of which was a parallel-tuned circuit tuned to the operating frequency. The out-of-balance noise voltage is fed back into the input, thus increasing the detector selectivity.

The results of measurements in each group of tests are given in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1

RESULTS OF MEASUREMENTS FOR 20° C BATH TEMPERATURE

Arc current	Electric field	Electron temperature	$R_{150}/R_{75}$	$L_{150}/L_{75}$
amp	volt/cm	°K		
4	0.263	21 750	1.78	2.1
2.5	0.295	21 800	1.58	2.1
1.5	0.31	23 800	1.8	1.8

Table 2

RESULTS OF MEASUREMENTS FOR 40° C BATH TEMPERATURE

Arc current	Electric field	Electron temperature	$R_{150}/R_{75}$	$L_{150}/L_{75}$
amp	volt/cm	°K		
4	0.31	15 200	1.86	1.88
2.5	0.365	14 900	2	1.54
1.5	0.37	14 300	1.7	1.85

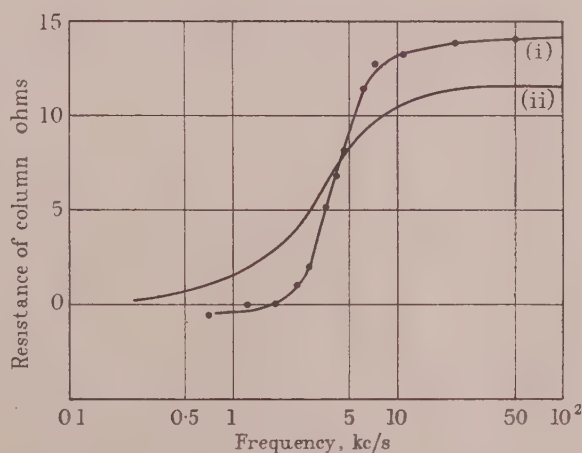


Fig. 12A.—Effective resistance of the 150cm positive column.

Arc current .. .. . 4 amp  
Bath temperature .. .. . 40° C  
(i) Experimental.  
(ii) Calculated.

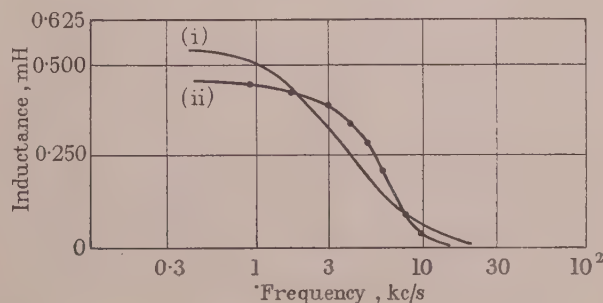


Fig. 12B.—Effective inductance of the 150cm positive column.

Arc current .. .. . 4 amp  
Bath temperature .. .. . 40° C  
(i) Calculated.  
(ii) Experimental.



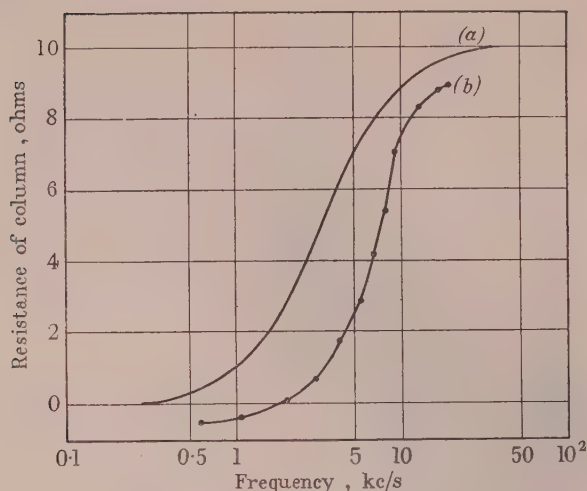


Fig. 13.—Effective resistance of the 150 cm positive column.

Arc current . . . . . 4 amp  
 Bath temperature . . . . . 20° C  
 (a) Calculated.  
 (b) Experimental.

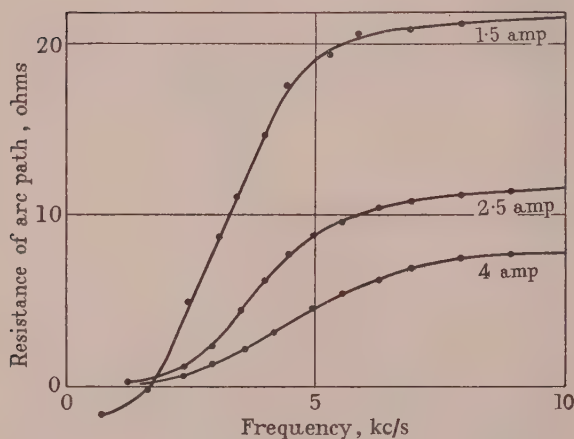


Fig. 14.—Effective resistance of different arc currents in the 75 cm discharge tube.

Bath temperature . . . . . 40° C

The values given for the electric field and electron temperatures are the average of the readings obtained in the two tubes. Actually these readings were quite close to each other, the maximum difference being not more than 3%. Again, the average ratios, at any frequency, of the resistance and inductance of the 150 cm and 75 cm columns are given as  $R_{150}/R_{75}$  and  $L_{150}/L_{75}$  respectively. In Figs. 12A and 12B the resistance and inductance/frequency curves (obtained experimentally), for a 4-amp direct arc current in a 150 cm tube at a bath temperature of 40° C, are compared with the calculated curves under the same conditions. Figs. 14 and 15 give the measured resistance and inductance/frequency curves for the three different currents.

#### (4.3) Discussion and Conclusions

##### (4.3.1) General.

The change of the arc-path impedance with frequency is due to the changes of electron concentration being dependent on the frequency. At low frequencies, the periodic time is long enough

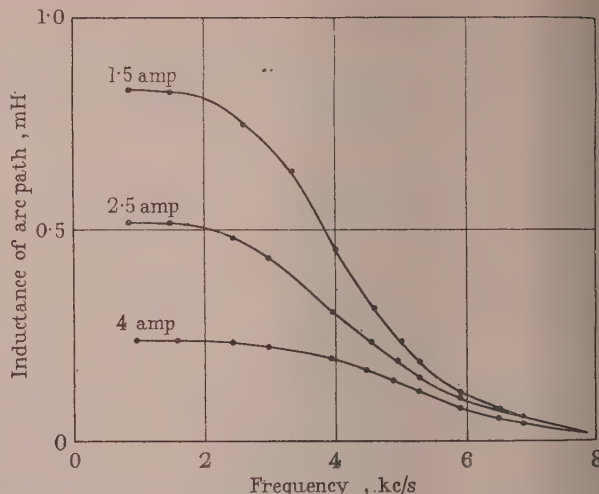


Fig. 15.—Effective inductance of different arc currents in the 75 cm discharge tube.

Bath temperature . . . . . 40° C

for all the particles capable of doing so to take part in the ionization process, and thus a large change in electron concentration and a low impedance of the path are produced. At high frequencies, however, the changes of the electric field are so rapid that only a small number of ionizing particles will take part in the ionization process. In this case, practically no change in the electron concentration is produced during the cycle, and hence a constant and relatively high resistance of the path results.

Both experimental and calculated curves of the high- and low-pressure cases agree well in this respect. The resistance curves start from a low value at low frequencies and change to a constant and relatively large value at high frequencies. Furthermore, the frequencies at which the bends in the curves occur are very close in both the experimental and calculated results.

##### (4.3.2) High-pressure Column.

(a) The experimental work done by Magnold is not sufficient to check the theory developed. Further work is necessary to investigate the effect of changing the length, pressure and arc current in the column in order to make an exact comparison. However, the calculated curves are seen to have the same shape and order of magnitudes as the experimental observations of Magnold.

(b) The above theory applies only for the positive column of the arc, while the resistances obtained by Magnold were measured between the electrodes, i.e. including the cathode region. Buchtger's and the authors' investigations of the behaviour of the hot-cathode region of an arc of very short length, it was found that in the range of frequency considered above, the arc had nearly constant positive resistance while its effective inductance was negligible. Therefore the measured resistances of the arc path will be the sum of the resistances of the positive column and the cathode in series. This may explain why the measured resistance starts from a positive value at low frequencies and rises from a negative one, as indicated by the calculated curve.

(c) In order to make the calculated resistance/frequency curves fall in the same frequency range as the experimental one it was necessary to take the probability of thermal ionization  $F$  equal to unity, which is relatively high.

(d) The theory developed above is mainly based on the Schottky formula for the concentration of electrons and the assumption that the ionization is a thermal process. The theory will r

ld if the pressure is reduced to a value where the electron ionization predominates. However, for higher pressures when the Saha formula is valid, the theory holds.

(e) The calculations are carried out for an arc in mercury vapour which is a mono-atomic gas, and no dissociation takes place. For other gases, the dissociation phenomena should be considered. Further, in the case of mercury vapour the radiation spectrum can be considered uniform, which may not be true for other gases.

(f) The method of treatment given above bears a strong similarity to that given by Kneser<sup>15</sup> to explain the behaviour of sound absorption in gases. The ionization process and the change of the ionization energy between neutral molecules in the positive column are analogous to the exchange of the vibrational energy between the gas particles in the case of sound.

### 3.3 Low-Pressure Column.

(a) The frequency at which the resistance/frequency curve starts to bend will depend upon the value of  $A = 3/2T(dx/dT)$ . The resistance/frequency curve will be shifted towards the higher-frequency region, the smaller the value of  $A$ . For a bath temperature of 40° C,  $A = 1.06 \times 10^{-4}$  and for a bath temperature of 20° C,  $A = 0.8 \times 10^{-4}$ . The resistance curve for a bath temperature of 20° C should be to the right of that at 40° C for the same arc current.

The theoretical deductions agree to a certain extent with the experimental findings. The shift in the experimental curve is more than expected, as shown in Fig. 13.

(b) The effective resistance at high frequency is given by  $\mathcal{E}/\Delta I = \mathcal{E}/I = \text{constant}$ . As the electric field in the column varies very little with the direct arc current for the same bath temperature the resistance of the path should be less for higher currents. The agreement in this respect is seen from Figs. 14 and 15. The same argument will hold for the expression for the inductance.

(c) The theoretical expression for the effective impedance was derived per unit length of the column. Therefore the impedance of the 150 cm tube should be double that of the 75 cm one. It will be seen from Tables 1 and 2 that the ratio of the two impedances ranges from 1.5 to 2.1. The agreement is fairly satisfactory. The departure from a 2:1 ratio may be due to the fact that the two tubes have a common path between the surface of the cathode pool and the neck where they branch out. Furthermore, the effect of the phenomena in the cathode region was not taken into account. In order to minimize this effect, the positive column under consideration was made of considerable length. However, about 30% of the total voltage between the electrodes is distributed across the cathode region.

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### (6) APPENDICES

#### (6.1) Effect of Diffusion alone on the Electron Concentration

Considering a cylindrical core of radius  $a$  with a uniform concentration of electrons  $N_1$  per cubic centimetre, the concentration at any point at radius  $r$  outside the column will be

$$\frac{d^2N}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dN}{dr} = \frac{1}{D} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

For alternating concentrations

$$\frac{d^2N}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dN}{dr} - \frac{j\omega}{D} N = 0$$

and  $n = N = AK_0r\sqrt{(j\omega/D)} + BI_0r\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants and  $K_0$  and  $I_0$  are Bessel functions of modified forms. As the concentration is finite at a very large radius,  $B = 0$ .

Again,  $N = N_1$  at  $r = a$ , and therefore  $A = N_1/K_0a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}$ . The rate of diffusion from the core per centimetre length will be

$$\Delta Q = -2\pi aD \left( \frac{dn}{dr} \right)_{r=a}$$

Using the asymptotic form

$$K_0(x) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{2x}\right)} e^{-x}$$

The amplitude  $\Delta q$  of the number of electrons which alternates outwards and inwards at the boundary surface  $r = a$  will be

$$\Delta q = \Delta Q/j\omega = \frac{\pi DN_1}{j\omega} [1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}]$$

To maintain the concentration  $n_1$  in the core, electrons have to be introduced at a rate equal to the sum of the rate of increase of the electrons in the core, and the rate of their loss at the boundary  $r = a$ . Thus

$$j\omega(\Delta \xi) = j\omega\pi a^2 N_1 + \Delta Q$$

$$\frac{\Delta q}{\Delta \xi} = D[1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}] / j\omega \left\{ a^2 + \frac{D}{j\omega} [1 + 2a\sqrt{(j\omega/D)}] \right\}$$



## (6.2) Effect of Ionization and Diffusion combined on the Electron Concentration in the Low-Pressure Column

The electron concentration is defined by Schottky to be

$$\frac{d^2N}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dN}{dr} + \frac{\alpha}{D} N = \frac{1}{D} \frac{dN}{dt}$$

For the d.c. column  $dN/dt = 0$  and  $N = N_0 J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$ .

If the electron temperature is increased by a small sinusoidal quantity  $\Delta T e^{j\omega t}$ , the coefficient of ionization,  $\alpha$ , and the electron concentration,  $N$ , will undergo similar sinusoidal changes,  $\Delta \alpha e^{j\omega t}$  and  $n e^{j\omega t}$ , respectively. Assuming that the coefficient of diffusion  $D$  remains constant, the new concentration will be

$$\frac{d^2}{dr^2}(N + n e^{j\omega t}) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr}(N + n e^{j\omega t}) + \frac{(N + n e^{j\omega t})(\alpha + \Delta \alpha e^{j\omega t})}{D} = \frac{1}{D} \frac{d}{dt}(N + n e^{j\omega t})$$

Subtracting the steady-state relation  $dN/dt = 0$ , and neglecting the term of second order,

$$\frac{d^2n}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dn}{dr} + \frac{\alpha - j\omega}{D} n + \frac{\Delta \alpha}{j\omega} N_0 J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)} = 0$$

The complementary function

$$\frac{d^2n}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dn}{dr} + \frac{\alpha - j\omega}{D} n = 0$$

will have the solution

$$n = C J_0 r \sqrt{[(\alpha - j\omega)/D]}$$

Taking  $J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$  as a particular integral, the complete solution will be

$$n = C J_0 r \sqrt{[(\alpha - j\omega)/D]} + \frac{\Delta \alpha}{j\omega} N_0 J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)}$$

The constant  $C$  can be determined from the boundary condition  $n = 0$  at  $r = a$  as the wall is an insulator; therefore  $C =$  The change in the number of electrons per centimetre length of the column is

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \eta &= \int_0^a 2\pi r n dr = \frac{\Delta \alpha}{j\omega} \int_0^a 2\pi r N_0 J_0 r \sqrt{(\alpha/D)} dr \\ &= \frac{\Delta \alpha}{j\omega} \eta = \frac{\eta (d\alpha/dT)}{j\omega} \Delta T \end{aligned}$$

## THE DESIGN OF COILS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH MAGNETIC FIELDS

By A. N. INCE, B.Sc.

*(The paper was first received 3rd March, and in revised form 28th April, 1954. It was published as an INSTITUTION MONOGRAPH in July, 1954.)*

## SUMMARY

The paper is concerned with the design of coils of rectangular cross-section for the production of intense transient magnetic fields using energy obtained from a bank of charged condensers. Curves are given to facilitate the design of a coil of maximum efficiency to meet any given requirements.

## LIST OF PRINCIPAL SYMBOLS

$r_1$  = Internal and external radii of the coil, cm.  
 $2l$  = Total length of the coil, cm.  
 $N$  = Total number of turns on the coil.  
 $\rho$  = Resistivity of coil wire, ohm-cm.  
 $R$  = Resistance of the coil, ohm.  
 $L$  = Inductance of the coil, henry.  
 $\lambda$  = Space factor.  
 $v$  = Conductor volume, cm<sup>3</sup>.  
 $\kappa$  = Nagaoka constant.  
 $c$  = Specific heat of the coil wire, cal/g/°C.  
 $d$  = Density of the coil wire, g/cm<sup>3</sup>.  
 $i$  = Instantaneous current, amp.  
 $i_{max}$  = Peak current, amp.  
 $H$  = Maximum field intensity at the centre of the coil, oersteds.  
 $\tau$  = Duration of the first half-cycle of current, sec.  
 $C$  = Capacitance of condenser, farads.  
 $V$  = Voltage to which the condenser is charged, volts.  
 $W$  = Energy stored in the condenser, joules.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

The production of very high transient magnetic fields has been described by Kapitza,<sup>1</sup> who made use of energy stored in a capacitor, and the design of coils for use with this method has been treated by Cockcroft.<sup>2</sup> More recently a similar method has been developed in which the energy is obtained from a bank of charged condensers,<sup>3</sup> and Myers<sup>4</sup> has given some constructional details of suitable coils, about 2cm long and 0.64 to 1.73cm in external diameter, capable of producing magnetic fields up to  $10 \times 10^3$  oersteds with periods of the order of 50 microsec. A general design procedure is given.

The author has recently employed this method in connection with some work on electro-luminescent powders, and was fortunate in being able to make use of apparatus which had previously been installed in the Royal Society Mond Laboratory for quite different experiments. It was necessary, however, to design some new coils, and the present paper is concerned with considerations which arose in this connection. Curves are given to facilitate the design of a coil of maximum efficiency to meet any given requirements with regard to period, intensity of field, and length and internal radius of coil. The method of design is an extension of that previously used by Shoenberg.<sup>5</sup>

## (2) DESIGN PROCEDURE

## (2.1) Preliminary Considerations

The following discussion is limited to the case where the discharge from the condenser is oscillatory, as it will be in nearly all practical cases. Very often the Q-factor of the circuit will be of the order of unity, and when this is the case, the connection between condenser and coil may be established by means of any convenient high-speed switch, for example a gravity-operated switch in which a heavily weighted metallic point falls at high velocity into a block of lead. Alternatively, if the Q-factor is not very low, the discharge may be accomplished by means of an ignitron, so that only the first half-cycle of current is permitted to flow. In either case the heating of the coil can be assumed to result only from energy dissipated during the first half-cycle, and this assumption will be made throughout.

The factors affecting the design of a coil for any particular purpose then arise in the following order:

The internal radius of the coil will normally be determined by conditions over which the designer has little control, although it is obvious that this radius should be as small as possible.

Similarly, external conditions will probably determine the minimum value that can be assigned to the duration of the first half-cycle of the discharge; although here again, the smaller the value permitted the greater will be the magnetic field that can be obtained, other factors remaining the same.

Once the internal radius and the period of oscillation have been settled, curves given later enable us to find the best shape of coil, the best gauge of wire and the optimum number of turns for a given capacitance. It then becomes possible to calculate the maximum field to be obtained from a given stored energy, or the minimum stored energy for a given field.

Finally, the configuration of the field can be estimated. If it is not sufficiently uniform, a longer coil containing the same volume of copper must be used, with a corresponding sacrifice in the maximum value of the magnetic field.

The above discussion assumes that the heating of the coil is the limiting factor, but if the coil has a relatively high Q-factor, mechanical stresses may become important. No attempt is made to calculate these stresses because it is not easy to set an upper limit to the stress which a coil of any particular construction will withstand. Thus the most straightforward procedure is to construct the optimum coil, taking temperature rise to be the limiting factor, and to determine by experiment whether this coil is strong enough to withstand the mechanical stresses. If it is not, the stresses can be reduced by using a longer coil with the same volume of copper, but such a coil will produce a smaller maximum field.

## (2.2) Explanation of the Design Curves

In this Section the detailed procedure for designing a coil is described, making use of a number of curves. The derivation of the formulae on which these curves are based is straightforward and is given in Section 5.

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.  
 Mr. Ince is in the Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge.



Consider a coil of length  $2l$ , with internal and external radii  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , respectively. It is convenient to express the size and shape of this coil in terms of the two parameters

$$a = \frac{r_2}{r_1} \text{ and } b = \frac{l}{r_1}$$

$r_1$  is assumed to be fixed by the purpose for which the coil is to be used, and so also is the duration  $\tau$  of the first half-cycle of the discharge.

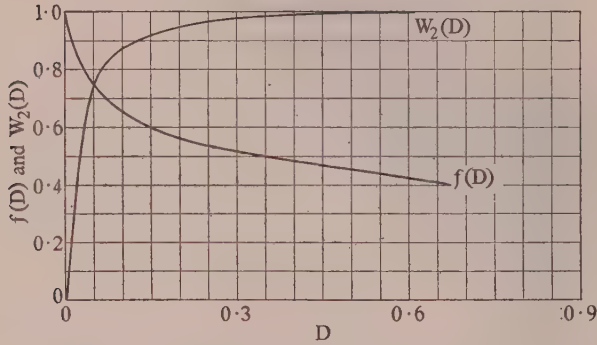


Fig. 1.—Variations of the functions  $f$  and  $W_2$  with  $D$ .

From the known values of  $r_1$  and  $\tau$ , a parameter  $D$  given by

$$D = 1/[1 + (r_2^2/100\tau^2)] \dots$$

is calculated.  $D$  is, in fact, inversely proportional to the square of the Q-factor of the coil.

The maximum field strength  $H_{max}$  at the centre of the coil can then be expressed as

$$H_{max} = 2.52 \times 10^4 f(D) \eta(a, b) \sqrt{(W/r_1^3)} \text{ oersteds}$$

where  $W$  is the energy in joules stored in the condenser,  $f(D)$  is a function of  $D$  which is plotted in Fig. 1, and  $\eta(a, b)$  is a function of  $a$  and  $b$  which determines the efficiency of the coil. Curves of constant  $\eta$  are plotted in Fig. 2, and the determination of  $\eta$  will be considered below.

The energy dissipated in the first half-cycle is given approximately by

$$W_1 = W \{1 - \exp[-2\pi\sqrt{D/(1-D)}]\} = WW_2(D)$$

where  $W_2(D)$  is plotted as a function of  $D$  in Fig. 1. Since  $W_1$  can be calculated from the capacitance and voltage rating of the condenser which is available,  $W$  can be determined.

The quantity of heat lost from the wire of the coil during time  $\tau$  will be quite negligible, so the volume  $v$  of the conductor related to its density  $d$ , specific heat  $c$  and the maximum permissible temperature rise  $\Delta T$  by

$$v = W_1/4.18dc\Delta T \dots$$

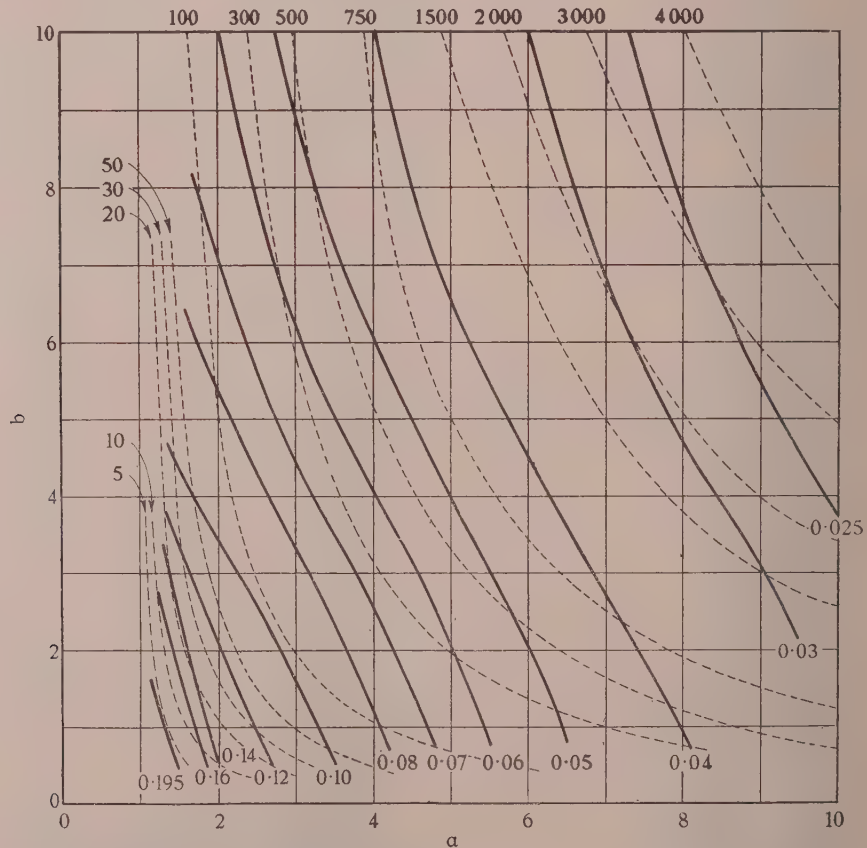


Fig. 2.—Efficiency,  $\eta$ , and volume,  $v_1$ , curves as a function of the coil parameters  $a$  and  $b$ .

—  $\eta$ .  
---  $v_1$ .

$\lambda$  is the space factor, i.e. the fraction of the total volume of the coil occupied by metallic conductor,

$$v = \lambda r_1^3 \pi b (a^2 - 1) = \lambda r_1^3 v_1(a, b) \quad (5)$$

where the function  $v_1$  is proportional to  $v$ , and curves of constant  $v_1$  are plotted in Fig. 2.

In eqn. (4) the product  $dc$  is approximately equal to 0.84 for any of the materials likely to be used for the conductor (e.g. copper or cadmium-copper), and so substitution from eqn. (5)

$$v_1 = W W_2 / 3.5 \lambda r_1^3 \Delta T \quad (6)$$

is unlikely to be very different from 0.6, and this value is assumed in the first instance. Thus, putting  $\Delta T$  equal to some value between 100 and 150° C, depending on the construction of the coil and the type of insulation,  $v_1$  can be calculated from eqn. (6).

From the constant- $v_1$  and constant- $\eta$  curves plotted in Fig. 2, it is possible to find the maximum value of  $\eta$  that can be obtained with the value of  $v_1$  fixed as above. The same curves also show what values of  $a$  and  $b$  must be used to attain this value of  $\eta$ . Substitution of  $\eta$  in eqn. (2) gives the maximum field  $H_{max}$ . If  $H_{max}$  is not as large as is required,  $W$  must be increased by the use of a larger condenser and the calculations repeated.

Once  $a$  and  $b$  have been settled, the number of turns can be determined from

$$N = \frac{8r_1^3 \lambda^2 D}{10^9 C \rho^2} \cdot \frac{b(a-1)^2}{1 + 0.225(1+a)/b + (a-1)[0.64/(1+a) + 0.42/b]} \quad (7)$$

where the capacitance,  $C$ , of the condenser is in farads and  $\rho$  is the mean resistivity of the wire over the appropriate temperature range. For example,  $\rho$  may be assumed to be  $2 \times 10^{-6}$  ohm-cm for copper, with  $\Delta T = 130^\circ$  C and the coil initially at room temperature.

From  $N$  and the dimensions of the coil, the appropriate gauge wire may be determined, and a check can then be made of whether the assumed value of space factor,  $\lambda = 0.6$ , is correct. If not, the calculations must be repeated with a revised value of  $\lambda$ . Since the efficiency of the coil increases with  $\lambda$ , every effort must be made to keep  $\lambda$  as large as possible. For wire larger than, say, No. 10 S.W.G., the use of square-section conductor would be worth while.

### (2.3) Results obtained from the above Procedure

The following results are quoted as examples of the above design procedure:

In Fig. 3, the variation of  $H_{max}$  with  $r_1$  is shown for  $W = 5000$  joules,  $D = 0.05$  and  $\Delta T = 100^\circ$  C. Similarly, Fig. 4 shows the variation of  $H_{max}$  and  $\tau$  with  $D$ , for  $W = 5000$  joules,  $r_1 = 0.9$  cm and  $\Delta T = 100^\circ$  C.

If there were no limitation due to overheating of the coil, the value of  $H_{max}$  obtainable with a given coil would be proportional to the square root of  $W$ , other factors remaining the same. As it is, any increase in  $W$  involves an increase in the volume of the coil to avoid overheating, and so  $H_{max}$  varies relatively slowly with  $W$ . In a particular case ( $r_1 = 0.9$  cm and  $D = 0.05$ ) an increase of  $W$  from 5000 to 10000 joules causes only a 16% increase in  $H_{max}$ .

An experimental coil was constructed to give a maximum field of  $1.3 \times 10^5$  oersteds with  $r_1 = 0.9$  cm,  $W = 5000$  joules,  $\Delta T = 100^\circ$  C and  $D = 0.4$ . The maximum current through the coil was measured by observing with an oscillograph the voltage drop across a small resistance in series with the coil. This current agreed to within 3% with the value obtained from the formulae previously given.

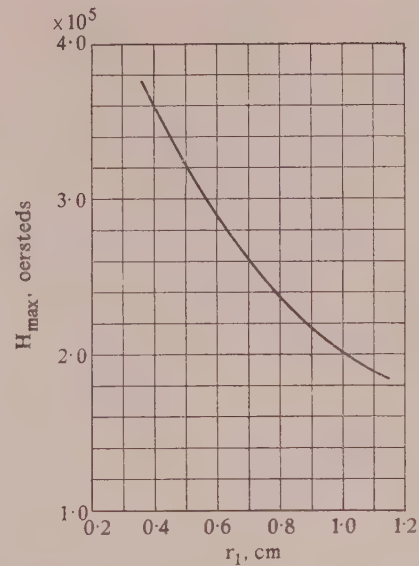


Fig. 3.—Dependence of maximum field intensity  $H_{max}$  on the internal radius,  $r_1$ , of the coil for  $W = 5000$  joules,  $D = 0.05$ ,  $\Delta T = 100^\circ$  C.

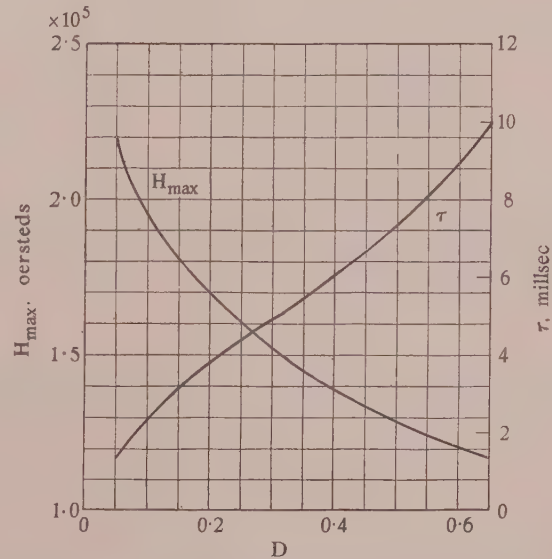


Fig. 4.—Dependence of maximum field intensity  $H_{max}$  and period  $\tau$  of field on  $D$ , for  $W = 5000$  joules,  $r_1 = 0.9$  cm,  $\Delta T = 100^\circ$  C.

### (3) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to express his thanks to Dr. D. Shoenberg, who kindly allowed him to carry out experimental work in the Royal Society Mond Laboratory and to make use of apparatus previously constructed there for producing high magnetic fields. He is also indebted to Mr. E. Laurmann, who assisted him with the experimental work.

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## (5) APPENDIX

For a coil with the dimensions given in Section 2.2, the field at the centre is readily shown to be

$$H = \frac{\pi Ni}{5(r_2 - r_1)} \log_e \frac{r_2 + \sqrt{(r_2^2 + l^2)}}{r_1 + \sqrt{(r_1^2 + l^2)}} \text{ oersteds} \quad (8)$$

where  $i$  is the current in amperes.

The resistance  $R$  of the coil is

$$R = \frac{\pi \rho N^2 (r_1 + r_2)}{2l\lambda(r_2 - r_1)} \quad (9)$$

so that eqn. (8) may be written

$$H = \frac{i}{5} \frac{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda R)}}{\sqrt{[\rho(r_2^2 - r_1^2)]}} \log_e \frac{r_2 + \sqrt{(r_2^2 + l^2)}}{r_1 + \sqrt{(r_1^2 + l^2)}} \quad (10)$$

or in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ ,

$$H = \frac{i}{5} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda R}{r_1 \rho}} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi b}{a^2 - 1}} \log_e \frac{a + \sqrt{(a^2 + b^2)}}{1 + \sqrt{(1 + b^2)}} \\ = i \sqrt{\frac{\lambda R}{r_1 \rho}} G(a, b), \text{ say} \quad (11)$$

Where  $G$  is a function of  $a$  and  $b$  previously introduced by Cockcroft.<sup>2</sup>

If a condenser of capacitance  $C$ , charged to a voltage  $V$ , is connected to the coil of inductance  $L$  at time  $t = 0$ , the subsequent current in the coil is given by

$$i = \frac{V}{L\omega} e^{-\mu t} \sin \omega t \quad (12)$$

where  $\mu = R/2L$ ,  $\omega^2 = (1/LC) - (R^2/4L^2)$  and the equation is valid for  $\omega^2 > 0$ . The maximum current during the first half-cycle is then

$$I_m = \frac{V}{L\sqrt{(\mu^2 + \omega^2)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\mu}{\omega} \arctan \frac{\omega}{\mu}\right) \quad (13)$$

It is convenient to rewrite eqn. (13) in terms of a new variable  $D = R^2C/4L$ , to give

$$I_m = \sqrt{(C/L)} V \exp\left\{-\sqrt{[D/(1-D)]} \arctan \sqrt{[(1-D)/D]}\right\} \quad (14)$$

$$= V\sqrt{(C/L)} f(D) \quad (15)$$

The curve of  $f(D)$  against  $D$  in Fig. 1 is computed from the equations.

The inductance  $L$  of a coil of the form considered is given by

$$L = 10^{-9} \pi^2 r_1 N^2 \kappa (1+a)^2 / 2b \text{ henrys} \quad (16)$$

where

$$\kappa = 1 / \left[ 1 + \frac{0.225(1+a)}{b} + (a-1) \left( \frac{0.64}{1+a} + \frac{0.42}{b} \right) \right]$$

Eqns. (9) and (16) can be used to express  $D$  in the form

$$D = 10^9 C \rho^2 N^2 / 8 \kappa b r_1^3 \lambda^2 (a-1)^2$$

which is identical with eqn. (7).

Since the energy stored in the condenser is  $\frac{1}{2} CV^2$ , eqns. (15) and (16) can be combined to give

$$H_{max} = 2.52 \times 10^4 \sqrt{(W/r_1^3)} f(D) G(a, b) / \sqrt{[\kappa(a^2 - 1)]}$$

which is equivalent to eqn. (2) if  $\eta(a, b)$  is written instead of  $G(a, b)/\sqrt{\kappa(a^2 - 1)}$ . The curves of  $\eta(a, b)$  plotted in Fig. 1 were computed from this relation.

The half-period  $\tau$  of the first oscillation is found by putting  $\omega\tau = \pi$  in eqn. (12). Whence

$$\tau = \pi / \sqrt{\left( \frac{1}{LC} - \frac{R^2}{4L^2} \right)} \\ = \frac{2\pi^2 \lambda r_1^3 \kappa (a^2 - 1)}{10^9 \rho} \sqrt{\frac{D}{1-D}}$$

For purposes of design an equation is required from which  $\tau$  can be calculated when  $r_1$  and  $\tau$  are given. Eqn. (18) as it stands cannot be used for this purpose, because the values of  $\lambda$ ,  $\kappa$  and  $a$  will not be known at this stage of the design. However,  $\lambda$  will not differ greatly from 0.6, and it will usually be sufficient accurate to put  $\kappa(a^2 - 1) = 2$ . If, in addition,  $\rho$  is given the value  $2.2 \times 10^{-6}$  ohm-cm, which is appropriate for copper at  $\Delta T = 130^\circ \text{C}$ , eqn. (18) reduces to the approximate form

$$D = 1/[1 + (r_1^2/100\tau^2)^2]$$

which is identical with eqn. (1).

For the calculation of the energy dissipated during the first half-cycle, a mean value of the resistance  $R$  over the appropriate temperature range may be used. Then

$$W_1 = R \int_0^\tau i^2 dt = \frac{RV^2}{L^2 \omega^2} \int_0^{\pi/\omega} e^{-2\mu t} \sin^2 \omega t dt$$

which can be reduced to

$$W_1 = W \{1 - \exp[-2\pi\sqrt{(D/(1-D))}]\} \\ = WW_2(D)$$

$W_2(D)$  is plotted against  $D$  in Fig. 1.

# THE VARIATION WITH CURRENT AND INDUCTANCE OF METAL TRANSFER BETWEEN PLATINUM CONTACTS

By JANET RIDDLESTONE, B.A.

The paper was first received 5th March, and in revised form 30th April, 1954. It was published as an INSTITUTION MONOGRAPH in July, 1954.)

## SUMMARY

The investigation described is a continuation of the work on transfer between platinum contacts published by the author in a previous paper. An account is given of the manner in which the metal transfer between platinum contacts breaking a 6-volt circuit varies with current and circuit inductance. Curves of the net transfer are given for currents of 10 and 20 amp, but was not known to occur at currents as low as 2 amp. It is shown that the build-up of pips on the contacts varies in steepness with the nature of the transfer. Some suggestions are given as to the mechanism of the different types of transfer, but at present a complete explanation cannot be given. Consideration is given to the practical application of the results, and it is shown that under some conditions the life of platinum contacts could be improved by controlling the effective circuit inductance at break to a value of about  $0.6 \mu\text{H}$ .

## (1) INTRODUCTION

In a previous paper by the author<sup>1</sup> it was shown that "fine transfer" between platinum contacts breaking low-current low-inductance circuits occurs as residual transfer, which is independent of circuit inductance, together with a "short-arc transfer" which increases with circuit inductance. Both types of transfer result in a pip build-up on the cathode and a corresponding crater on the anode. These results were obtained with a 6-volt supply and controlled currents of 0.95 and 1.75 amp and controlled inductances of  $0.05$ – $10 \mu\text{H}$ . In order to obtain further information about transfer, the ranges of currents and inductances have been extended, and results are given in the paper for currents of 1.8, 3.0, 3.9 and 7.6 amp and inductances from  $0.06$  to  $117 \mu\text{H}$ . The results confirm those given in the earlier paper, and they also show that the variation of transfer with inductance is more complex at higher currents.

## (2) TEST APPARATUS AND CIRCUIT

Except for a change in the contact-operating mechanism, the experimental arrangement was essentially the same as that described in the previous paper. The distributor unit used to operate the contacts was replaced by a magnetically operated relay designed to give a controlled contact pressure and to have controlled opening and closing speeds. The moving contact was mounted on an armature which was pivoted so as to move in the space between two coil-operated magnets. One coil provided the hold-on force and the other provided the a.c. operating force. The armature was suspended by means of steel shafts in bearings designed to eliminate play at the contacts. The amount of play which can be tolerated in any direction at right angles to the

motion of the armature is determined by the size of the area over which transfer occurs. For platinum contacts breaking 1.8 amp the maximum play allowable is probably about  $5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}$ . The relay operated satisfactorily for currents of 1.8 amp upwards, but would not give accurate results at lower currents owing to small movements at the contact area. The contacts were crossed cylinders of 22 s.w.g. thermo-pure platinum. The contact pressure was 30 g, the average opening speed was about  $0.5 \text{ cm/sec}$ , and the frequency of operation was 50 c/s. An auxiliary relay was arranged so that the platinum contacts broke the circuit current but closed on zero current.

The circuit was designed so that the inductive energy available at the contacts could be controlled down to the smallest values possible. A diagram of the circuit is shown in Fig. 1(a). The

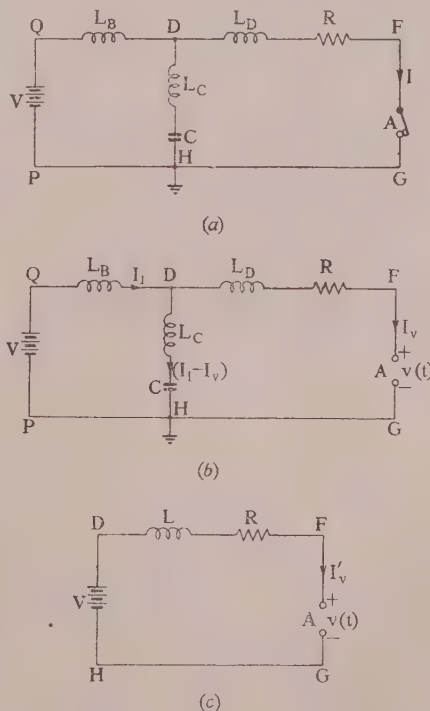


Fig. 1.—Circuit diagrams.

- (a) With contacts closed.  
(b) After an arc is established.  
(c) Equivalent circuit for the arc current.

capacitor  $C$  acts as a by-pass for the inductive energy in the battery leads. The self-inductance,  $L$ , of the loop DFGH is defined as the sum of the self-inductance,  $L_0$ , of the loop together with a controlled amount of added inductance. The value of  $L_0$  varies by a small amount with the current-limiting resistance  $R$ . This resistance is in the form of a suitable combination of 6-volt

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication. Mrs. Riddlestone is with the British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association.



car lamps which have low self-inductance and small dimensions. The values of the parameters are as follows:

Battery voltage,	$V = 6$ volts.
Self-inductance of battery leads,	$L_B \approx 0.33 \mu\text{H}$ .
Self-inductance of capacitor + leads,	$L_C = 0.01 \mu\text{H}$ .
Inductance of loop DFGH,	$L = L_C + L_D = 0.06$ to $117 \mu\text{H}$ .
Residual inductance of DFGH,	$L_0 = 0.06$ to $0.1 \mu\text{H}$ .
Capacitance,	$C = 100 \mu\text{F}$ .
Current-limiting resistance,	$R = 0.79, 1.54, 2$ , or $3.33 \Omega$ .
Closed-circuit current,	$I = 7.6, 3.9, 3.0$ , or $1.8 \text{ A}$ .
Current just before break,	$I_B = 5.6, 2.9, 2.2$ , or $1.3 \text{ A}$ .

The inductances were measured with the circuit in the position occupied during the tests at frequencies between 2 and 26 Mc/s.

It is well known<sup>1-4</sup> that as the contacts open the voltage across them rises to a value  $V_B$  ( $=1.6$  volt approximately) before complete separation occurs. Calculations show<sup>1</sup> that if no arcing takes place the voltage across the contacts immediately after break is given by

$$v(t) = I_B \sqrt{\left(\frac{L}{C}\right)} \sin \omega t + V_B \quad \dots (1)$$

where  $C_0$  ( $\approx 10 \mu\text{F}$ ) is the capacitance at the contacts immediately after break and  $\omega^2$  is equal to  $1/C_0 L$ . With the experimental values of the parameters used it can be seen that the voltage across the contacts rises in a very short time to the minimum arcing voltage  $V_0$ , which is about 13.5 volts. If an arc then takes place, as will usually be the case, further calculations are necessary to determine the behaviour of the circuit. Fig. 1(b) shows the conditions in the circuit during an arc with voltage  $v(t)$ . The current flowing in the arc is  $I_v$ . Calculation of this current shows that with the range of values of the parameters used it differs little from the current  $I_v$  in the equivalent circuit of the diagram given in Fig. 1(c). The inequality satisfied by  $I_v$  is given by

$$1.1I_v(t) - 0.1I_B \leq I_v(t) \leq 0.9(I_v(t) + 0.1I_B) \quad \dots (2)$$

subject to  $R \geq 0.8 \Omega$  and  $0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}L/R$ , where  $t$  is measured from the commencement of arcing. It can be shown that the arc duration does not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}L/R$  when  $V = 6$  volts and  $V_0 = 13.5$  volts. The energy used in the arc is given by

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_{t=0}^{t_A} v(t) I_v(t) dt \\ &= \int_{I=I_B}^{I_A} v(t) I \left(\frac{dt}{dI}\right) dI \quad \dots (3) \end{aligned}$$

where  $I_A$  is the extinction current of the arc. If the energy  $W'$  used in the arc of Fig. 1(c) is calculated assuming that  $I_A \ll I_B$  and that  $v(t) \geq V_0$  and using an equation of the type (3), then  $W'$  satisfies

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) \leq W' \leq 1.32\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) \quad \dots (4)$$

If the inequality (2) is used it can be shown that, provided  $v(t) \geq V_0 \geq 1.2V + 1.1RI_B = 2.3V - 1.1V_B$ ,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 0.73\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) &\leq W \leq 1.65\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) \text{ for } I_B \leq 5.6 \text{ amperes} \\ 0.95\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) &\leq W \leq 1.39\left(\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2\right) \text{ for } I_B \leq 1.3 \text{ amperes} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5)$$

The calculations for eqn. (5) are simplified if it is assumed that the voltage  $v(t)$  is constant but the inequalities are unchanged. Eqn. (5) gives the limits of the energy available in an arc at the contacts and hence the upper limit of the energy available for contact erosion.

The transfer was measured by optical estimation of the pip

volumes as described previously.<sup>1</sup> This method was originally by Lander and Germer.<sup>2</sup> A photographic technique of measurement was used which consistently gave estimated values 2% lower than those obtained by using an eyepiece micrometer. For the results given below the error of measurement was in most cases less than  $\pm 10\%$ , but when the transfer was flat spread over a wide area an attempt was made to allow for errors caused by the curvature of the wire and the different shape of the pip.

### (3) RESULTS

The investigation was confined to the measurement of transfer between platinum contacts breaking currents in a 6-volt circuit. The range of parameters used is given in Section 2. In subsequent discussion the circuit current will be taken as current  $I_B$  at break. It was observed that in all cases voltage,  $V_B$ , across the contacts at break was about 1.6 volt and  $I_B$  can be obtained from  $I$  using this value of  $V_B$ . A number of operations used for each measurement was  $1.5 \times 10^5$ . It was necessary to use the same number of operations, since rate of transfer is not constant,<sup>1</sup> and complete investigation of the variation of the rate of transfer with time would be long. A preliminary investigation at 1.3 amp showed that the transfer with the new apparatus was the same as that observed with cam-operated contacts,<sup>1</sup> in spite of changes in rate of operation and opening speed.

#### (3.1) Variation of Transfer with Inductance and Current

The variation of the average net cathode gain or loss per operation is shown in Figs. 2 and 3 for  $I_B = 1.3, 2.2, 2.9$

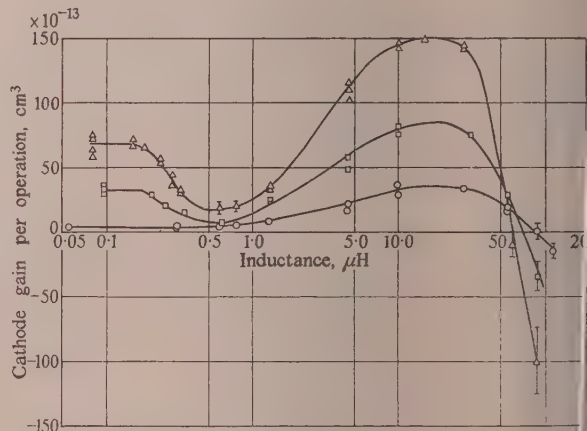


Fig. 2.—Variation of transfer with inductance and current ( $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations).

$\triangle \triangle \triangle I_B = 2.9$  amp.  
 $\square \square \square I_B = 2.2$  amp.  
 $\circ \circ \circ I_B = 1.3$  amp.

5.6 amp, and with inductances varying from the minimum to 117  $\mu\text{H}$ . The gain or loss of metal from the anode was measured, but where there was a well-defined cathode pip appeared to be only small total loss from anode and cathode compared with the amount transferred. There was probably appreciable total loss for  $I_B = 1.3, 2.2$  and 2.9 amp where was greater than 30  $\mu\text{H}$  and for  $I_B = 5.6$  amp with  $L > 30 \mu\text{H}$ . In these cases and for  $I_B = 5.6$  amp with  $L > 0.3 \mu\text{H}$  the transfer was diffuse and not in sharp pip-and-crater form, so the estimation of volume gained or lost could be made only between the limits shown on the curve. Nevertheless

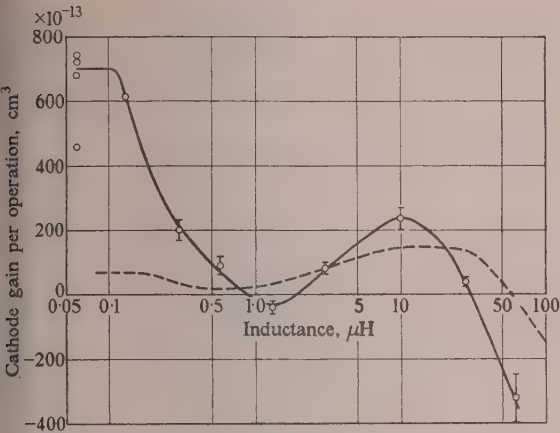


Fig. 3.—Variation of transfer with inductance for  $I_B = 5.5$  amp ( $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations).

○ ○ ○  $I_B = 5.6$  amp.  
 ---  $I = 2.9$  amp.

accuracy was sufficient to establish the general magnitude and direction of transfer.

It can be seen that for all currents greater than about 2 amp net transfer varies with inductance in a complex manner (Fig. 4). The values  $T_1, T_2, T_3$ , represent respectively the residual

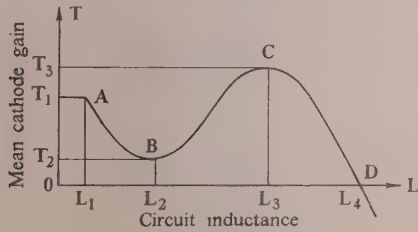


Fig. 4.—Variation of transfer with inductance.

value, the first minimum, and the first maximum of the mean cathode gain. The values  $L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4$  of inductance correspond to the first decrease, the first minimum, the first maximum and the final reversal of the transfer. The characteristics of the curves of Figs. 2 and 3 are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1

CHARACTERISTICS OF CURVES FOR NET TRANSFER (FIGS. 2 AND 3)

Current $I_B$	Inductance $L$				Mean net cathode gain per operation		
	$L_1$	$L_2$	$L_3$	$L_4$	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_3$
	μH	μH	μH	μH	cm³ $\times 10^{-13}$	cm³ $\times 10^{-13}$	cm³ $\times 10^{-13}$
1.3	—	—	20	90	4	—	38
2.2	<0.2	0.5	15-20	70	33	12	85
2.9	0.18	0.6	15-20	60	67	19	153
5.6	<0.18	1.5	10	30	710	-50	230

The variation of net transfer with current for  $L = L_0, 0.6 \mu\text{H}$  and  $4.5 \mu\text{H}$  is shown in Fig. 5. The residual transfer is in all cases a cathode gain and varies approximately as  $I_B^{3.4}$ . The net transfer for  $L \geq 0.6 \mu\text{H}$  varies approximately as  $I_B^2$  over certain ranges of currents and inductances. These two relationships are

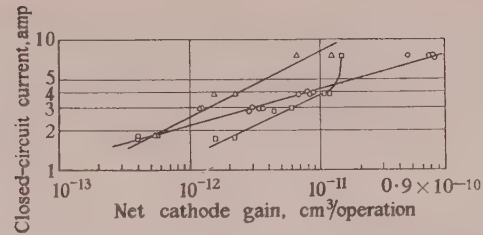


Fig. 5.—Variation of net transfer with current ( $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations).

△ △ △  $L = 0.6 \mu\text{H}$ .  
 □ □ □  $L = 4.5 \mu\text{H}$ .  
 ○ ○ ○  $L = L_0 (< 0.1 \mu\text{H})$ .

purely empirical statements of the results obtained under the given experimental conditions.

Curves of the pip radius  $r$  (Fig. 6) and the ratio of pip height to pip radius (Fig. 7) show changes corresponding to the varia-

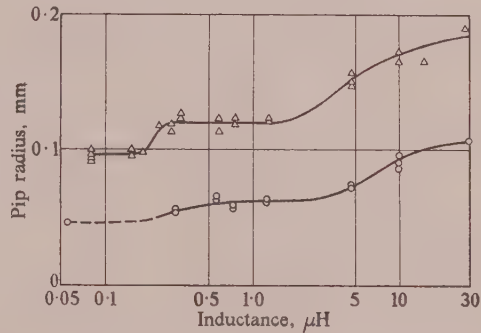


Fig. 6.—Variation of pip radius with inductance (after  $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations).

△ △ △  $I_B = 2.9$  amp.  
 ○ ○ ○  $I_B = 1.3$  amp.

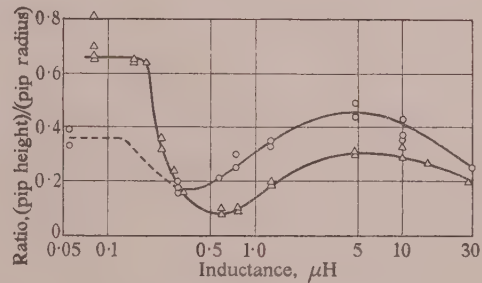


Fig. 7.—Variation of the ratio between pip height and pip radius (after  $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations).

△ △ △  $I_B = 2.9$  amp.  
 ○ ○ ○  $I_B = 1.3$  amp.

tions in transfer. At minimum inductances the pips are tall and steep-sided, but when a small inductance of the order of  $0.3 \mu\text{H}$  is introduced they become lower and wider. The base radius is very approximately proportional to  $I_B$  at all inductances. There is a close linear relationship at minimum inductance given by

$$r = 3.6 \times 10^{-3} I_B \text{ centimetre for } 1.3 \text{ amperes} \leq I_B \leq 5.6 \text{ amperes} \quad (6)$$



The minimum value of  $r$  is probably determined, not by the current, but by the hardness of the platinum, and with a 30-g load the minimum would be about  $3 \times 10^{-3}$  cm.

A few tests were made with the contacts making as well as breaking the circuit, and when allowance had been made for bounce, which was slight, it appeared that the transfer was the same as that for break alone.

### (3.2) Surface Structure of the Contacts and Surface Films

Examination of the surfaces of the contacts after a small number of operations shows that the changes of structure are similar to those described previously.<sup>1</sup> At the minimum inductances the anode and cathode are both finely pitted with craters of about equal diameter, in spite of the fact that the cathode gains material. Measurements show that the average values of the diameters,  $d$ , of these pits are proportional to the current, the relationship being given by the following equation:

$$\bar{d} = 2.4 \times 10^{-4} I_B \text{ centimetre} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} I \text{ centimetre} \quad (7)$$

It is interesting to note that almost the same value of  $\bar{d}$  was obtained for platinum over the same range of current by Pfann.<sup>3</sup> There is no marked change of surface structure in the region  $L_1, L_2$  (Fig. 4), but, as the net cathode gain increases, the cathode structure becomes irregular while the individual pits in the anode increase steadily in diameter [see Fig. 6 of Reference (1)] even when  $L$  is greater than  $L_4$ .

It was observed that two types of film appeared in the neighbourhood of the contact areas. There was no evidence, however, to show that these films affected contact performance adversely. The first type was a smooth transparent film which showed as rings of interference colours round the contact area. In some cases the film had cracked off the surface, and in all cases there was a narrow ring adjacent to the contact area which was free from film. The films occurred on both contacts at all values of  $L$  greater than  $L_1$  and increased in thickness with increasing values of  $L$ . The formation may be due to heating of the residue left on the surfaces after cleaning with trichloroethylene.

The second type of film appeared as a thick black ring round the contact area, graduating to a thin film of minute particles about 0.3 micron in diameter. These films obscured those of the first type and appeared on the anodes for inductances greater than  $3 \mu\text{H}$  for all currents. There were traces of the same film on the cathodes at low inductances, but in most cases the area covered by the film remained small until  $L$  was greater than about  $30 \mu\text{H}$ . At 5.6 amp, however, the dark ring appeared round the contact area of the cathode when  $L$  was  $0.2 \mu\text{H}$  and increased slowly in area as  $L$  increased. It seems likely that the dark films consisted of finely divided platinum particles which were deposited on the surfaces either in the form of spray or condensation. The growth of the film appears to follow the trends of material transfer and to be associated with the contact which loses material.

### (4) DISCUSSION

The results given in Section 3 show that the effect of inductance on transfer is more complex at higher than at lower currents. Thus the conclusions reached from measurements at 0.7 and 1.3 amp<sup>1</sup> do not apply to transfer at higher currents without modification. It is still possible, however, to deduce that there are two main types of transfer, namely bridge transfer and arc transfer. The arc transfer varies with inductance in a complex manner. For a given inductance the net transfer is the resultant of bridge transfer and up to three types of arc transfer. The following Sections contain an analysis of the observed transfer and a brief discussion of possible mechanisms involved.

### (4.1) Bridge Transfer

There is a residual transfer,  $T_1$ , which does not depend on circuit inductance and which occurs in the form of very steep pips on the cathode. The magnitude,  $\Delta$ , of the transfer is given by an empirical equation

$$\Delta(1.5) = 1.9 \times 10^{-13} \times I_B^{3.4} \text{ cm}^3/\text{operation for} \\ 1.3 \text{ amperes} \leq I_B \leq 5.6 \text{ amperes}$$

where  $\Delta(1.5)$  is the mean cathode gain for  $1.5 \times 10^5$  operations. The mechanism of transfer presumably is connected with the formation of the molten bridge which is drawn between the contacts and finally explodes when the hottest point reaches boiling temperature.<sup>1-4</sup> According to the theory of the Thomson effect<sup>5,6</sup> the temperature gradients in the bridge just before it boils are so high that the Thomson effect will cause a shift of the hottest point, and the bridge will break asymmetrically. Assumptions as to bridge dimensions and the value of the Thomson coefficient are made, it appears that the results of eqn. might be explained by the Thomson effect. At present, however, there is insufficient experimental evidence on which to base a pro-

### (4.2) Arc Transfer

It is evident that the transfer is dependent on the circuit inductance when this is greater than a small value,  $L_1$ . It seems that the only manner in which the inductive energy could cause transfer is by means of a discharge between the contacts. The conditions immediately after break are suitable for a transient discharge, since the bridge reaches boiling temperature before separation<sup>1,4</sup> and the voltage across the contacts after break reaches the minimum arcing voltage (about 13 volts) before the current  $I_B$  has decreased appreciably. Examination of the variation of surface structure and pip shape confirms the hypothesis<sup>1</sup> that there is an arc between the contact immediately after break which causes metal transfer. Direct evidence of the existence of an arc of very short duration between gold contacts has been given by Lander.<sup>11</sup>

Recently it has been possible to observe arcs between platinum contacts by using a high-speed oscillograph with a post-deflection acceleration tube. Records to be published at a later date show that transient low-voltage discharges occur over the whole range of measurement covered in this paper. It is shown in Section 3 that the energy dissipated in an arc is of the order of  $10^{-2}$  J. If the losses in the arc itself are small, as may be the case with very small gaps, most of the energy will be dissipated at the electrodes and will cause evaporation and transfer. The electrode which suffers greatest loss, and the efficiency of transfer, depend on the conditions in the gap. If there is sufficient energy available the conditions may change once or twice before the arc finally ceases. This is the reason for the changes in the net transfer which are observed as the inductance is increased. The changes and the possible mechanisms underlying them are discussed below.

At the minimum inductances it appears that any discharge which may occur at break does not affect the transfer. As the inductance increases above a small value  $L_1$  (see Table 1), there is a marked decrease in the steepness of the pips and an increase in base radius (Figs. 6 and 7). For currents greater than about 2 amp there is a decrease in net cathode gain which at 5.6 amp results in reversed transfer. This type of transfer is named for convenience "reversed short-arc transfer." It has been observed by Allen<sup>7</sup> for currents of 10 and 20 amp but was not known to exist for currents as low as 2 amp. A possible explanation of the mechanism is given by Allen in which he supposes that at higher currents the metal vapour released into the gap when the bridge explodes is at several atmospheres pressure, so

the gap length at this pressure is equal to several electron mean free paths and a long-arc type of discharge is set up in which the cathode is bombarded by ions and loses material. Provided that there is sufficient energy available, the arc will continue until the cathode metal has escaped. If the gap length in terms of electron mean free paths at atmospheric pressure is then sufficiently short the usual short-arc transfer occurs. This explains why the reversed short-arc transfer is replaced by short-arc transfer as  $L$  increases. Since nothing is known about the surface tension of platinum at its boiling-point or the exact width of the contact gap immediately after the explosion, it is not possible at present to develop the theory of reversed short-arc transfer.

A general explanation of short-arc transfer<sup>1,8</sup> in which the cathode loses material is based on the supposition that the contact gap after break is less than an electron mean free path, so that most of the electrons reach the anode with 15 volts energy; this energy is sufficient to evaporate the anode metal, some of which is transferred to the cathode. A suggested mechanism by which the necessary electrons for the discharge are produced from the cathode by the tunnel effect is given by Newton.<sup>9</sup> Some experimental work on this effect has been published recently.<sup>10</sup> The characteristics of this transfer appear to be the same at all currents, except that at higher currents it is complicated by the presence of reversed short-arc transfer.

The decrease in cathode gain and final reversal at high inductances is caused by the well-known long-arc erosion in which the cathode loses material by ion bombardment. The anode gains material, but there is probably an appreciable net loss. At this stage there is enough energy available for the arc to continue until the contacts have separated sufficiently for a long arc to take place, so that the net transfer is the result of four superimposed transfers of types: bridge, reversed short arc, short arc and long arc.

It was shown in Section 2 that the energy available in an arc depends on the arc voltage and the current  $I_B$ , and that for all values of the circuit parameters which have been used it is of the order of the inductive energy  $\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2$ . A measure of the efficiency of total arc transfer is obtained by dividing the sum of the absolute magnitudes of as many of the three types of arc transfer as occur at a given inductance,  $L$ , by the total volume of platinum which could be evaporated by the energy  $\frac{1}{2}LI_B^2$ . Values of the efficiency for a range of currents and inductances are given in Table 2. The values may be up to 40% less or greater when eqn. (5) is taken into account.

Table 2

EFFICIENCY OF ARC TRANSFER FOR FOUR VALUES OF  $I_B$ 

$L$	Efficiency			
	$I_B = 1.3$ amp	2.2 amp	2.9 amp	5.6 amp
$\mu\text{H}$	%	%	%	%
0.6	1.5	8.4	10.5	39.0
1.3	2.8	6.2	6.6	21.0
4.5	2.4	3.3	4.2	7.8
10.0	2.1	2.1	2.4	3.9
60.0	0.65	0.64	0.78	1.0
90.0	0.57	0.56	0.70	—

#### (4.3) Practical Considerations

A study of the results (Fig. 5) shows that improvement may be obtained in contact life in practice if a small amount of inductance is included in the circuit. If this is done, the transfer spread over a wide area, and the tendency to form very steep tips is decreased; moreover, the net transfer can be reduced con-

siderably without net loss. In the current range 1.3–5.6 amp the most suitable value of the effective circuit inductance is 0.6  $\mu\text{H}$ . It would not be advantageous to add large inductances to obtain the small transfer observed in the region  $L_4$ , since this is not a stable position and the erosion is diffuse with considerable film growth and appreciable net loss.

#### (5) CONCLUSION

Experimental evidence shows that, with platinum contacts breaking a 6-volt circuit with break currents between 1.3 and 5.6 amp, the metal transfer between the contacts is the resultant of bridge transfer, which is independent of circuit inductance, and of arc transfer, which is dependent on inductance. The nature of the arc transfer is complex and up to three different types of arc transfer may be superimposed one on another if there is sufficient energy available. The types of transfer may be summarized as follows:

(a) Bridge transfer, which varies approximately as  $I_B^{3.4}$  and is independent of inductance. This transfer occurs as sharp spherical pips on the cathode for inductances less than about 0.2  $\mu\text{H}$  but is masked by arc transfer for larger inductances.

(b) Reversed short-arc transfer, which occurs for  $I_B > 2$  amp, and is the predominating arc transfer for inductances between about 0.2  $\mu\text{H}$  and a value of the order of 1  $\mu\text{H}$  (depending on the current). This transfer is from cathode to anode and can result in reversal of net transfer.

(c) Short-arc transfer, which predominates for inductances between 1 and 20  $\mu\text{H}$  and is from anode to cathode.

(d) Long-arc transfer, which occurs for inductances greater than about 20  $\mu\text{H}$ , is in the direction cathode to anode and leads to a final reversal in direction of the net transfer.

The last three types of transfer tend to be more diffuse, so that the pips are flatter than in residual transfer; moreover, the volume transferred does not vary so rapidly with  $I_B$  when arc transfer predominates. All the results apply only to transfer under the given conditions of contact pressure and opening speed. It is not likely, however, that the results are very sensitive to variations of pressure in the range of 10–100 g or of opening velocity when this is of the order of 1 cm/sec.

It appears that the bridge transfer is consistent with the Thomson effect, but the evidence is not conclusive. The reversed short-arc transfer may be due to excess pressure in the metal vapour between the separating contacts, but there is insufficient evidence at present to decide whether this is the case. The general principles of short-arc and long-arc transfer are understood, but no detailed theory of the mechanism has been developed. Further experimental work on other metals and a study of the arc characteristics would help towards the understanding of the phenomena observed. Preliminary work shows that the transfer between other metals in some cases differs quite widely from that between platinum contacts under similar conditions, so that the results for other metals cannot be deduced from those for platinum.

It should be possible to obtain considerably increased life with platinum contacts if the circuit is arranged so that the effective inductance is small (of the order of 0.6  $\mu\text{H}$ ).

#### (6) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# A NEW METHOD OF DETERMINING CORRELATION FUNCTIONS OF STATIONARY TIME SERIES

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## SUMMARY

The paper presents what is believed to be a new approach to the problem of determining correlation functions of stationary time series. The method is based on an expansion of the correlation function in a suitable orthonormal system. The coefficients in this expansion are shown to be simply related to the convolution integrals which arise when the given time series are applied to linear filters whose impulse responses are members of this orthonormal system. A very simple scheme for measuring these coefficients is proposed. It is further shown how a complex filter, whose impulse response is of the same shape as the desired correlation function, can be built up in a systematic way when these coefficients have been determined. Two examples of filter systems whose impulse responses are members of a Laguerre system are presented, and finally a description of a practical autocorrelator built around one of these filters, and some results obtained with it, are given.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

The importance of statistical concepts and methods for handling problems in such diverse fields as radio noise, turbulence, tidal motion, astronomy, ionospheric physics, etc., is now firmly established.

A parameter which occurs frequently in the discussion of many of these problems is the temporal "correlation function" of two stationary time series  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  which is usually defined (Reference 2, p. 5) as

$$\psi_{12}(\tau) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^{+T} x_1(t)x_2(t+\tau)dt \quad (1)$$

$$\psi_{12}(\tau) = \overline{x_1(t)x_2(t+\tau)} \quad (2)$$

where the bar denotes time averaging in the sense specified in eqn. (1).

Because of the importance of this function it is natural that devices should be required, which, when presented with the time series  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$ , should carry out the operations implied by eqn. (1), thus enabling the function to be determined experimentally.

It is seen from eqns. (1) and (2) that the essential feature of its definition is the temporal delay  $\tau$  between the  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t+\tau)$ . When the  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  are fluctuating voltages or currents the provision of this "pure" delay presents rather a problem.

For very short delays (less than 100 microsec, say) artificial lines have been constructed to give the required delay without appreciable distortion of the waveform, while methods which have been used satisfactorily for longer delays include tape or film recording followed by playback with displaced reproducing heads, and pulse sampling methods.

In the paper a method which is believed to be a new approach to the problem of determining correlation functions will be

presented. This method has the advantage that a "pure" delay is not required.

## (2) THEORY

### (2.1) Expansion in Orthogonal Functions—General Case

Suppose that any correlation function\*  $\psi(\tau)$  can be expanded in a series of orthogonal functions (Reference 3, p. 22, and Reference 4, p. 49), thus

$$\psi(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \theta_n(\tau) [\omega(\tau)]^\gamma, \quad 0 \leq \tau < \infty \quad (3)$$

where the  $\theta_n(\tau)$  are polynomials which form an orthonormal set with respect to the weight function  $\omega(\tau)$  in the range  $0 \leq \tau < \infty$ . Thus

$$\int_0^{\infty} \theta_n(\tau) \theta_m(\tau) \omega(\tau) d\tau = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ 1, & m = n \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Then the coefficients  $a_n$  in the series expansion shown in eqn. (3) can be found in the usual way and are given by

$$a_n = \int_0^{\infty} \psi(\tau) \theta_n(\tau) [\omega(\tau)]^{1-\gamma} d\tau \quad (5)$$

Also, it may be shown (Reference 3, p. 24) that if

$$\psi_N(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^N b_n \theta_n(\tau) [\omega(\tau)]^\gamma \quad (6)$$

then

$$\int_0^{\infty} [\psi(\tau) - \psi_N(\tau)]^2 [\omega(\tau)]^{1-2\gamma} d\tau \quad (7)$$

is a minimum if, and only if,

$$b_n = a_n \quad (8)$$

In other words if only a finite number,  $N+1$ , of terms are going to be retained in the series expansion of  $\psi(\tau)$ , then the approximation will be best in a suitably weighted "least squares" sense if the coefficients of the retained terms have the same values as those in the infinite series.

### (2.2) The Symmetric Case $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$

If  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$ , eqns. (3) and (5) may be written in the "symmetric" form

$$\psi(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n \phi_n(\tau), \quad 0 \leq \tau < \infty$$

$$C_n = \int_0^{\infty} \psi(\tau) \phi_n(\tau) d\tau \quad (10)$$

where

$$\phi_n(\tau) = \theta_n(\tau) [\omega(\tau)]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (11)$$

\* The subscripts will be dropped when not necessary for the argument.

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It is easily seen from eqn. (7) that in this case the partial sums are best approximations in a "least square" sense with uniform weighting.

### (2.3) Linear Networks and "Orthogonal" Filters

Let us now consider the system of Fig. 1. We suppose that the linear network has an impulse response  $h_n(t)$ . Then it

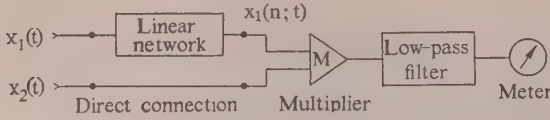


Fig. 1.—Basic measuring system.

follows from the superposition theorem that the filter output  $X_1(n; t)$  is given by

$$X_1(n; t) = \int_0^\infty x_1(t-u)h_n(u)du \quad (12)$$

The multiplier output is then

$$X_1(n; t)x_2(t) = \int_0^\infty x_1(t-u)x_2(t)h_n(u)du \quad (13)$$

and the mean value\* of eqn. (13) is

$$\overline{X_1(n; t)x_2(t)} = \int_0^\infty \overline{x_1(t-u)x_2(t)h_n(u)}du \quad (14)$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \psi_{12}(u)h_n(u)du \quad (15)$$

In passing from eqn. (14) to eqn. (15), use has been made of the stationary nature of the  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$ , and also of the definition in eqn. (2). Now comparing eqn. (15) with eqn. (5) it is readily seen that the coefficient  $a_n$  is identical with the average  $\overline{X_1(n; t)x_2(t)}$  provided that the filter impulse response is so chosen that

$$h_n(t) = \theta_n(t)[\omega(t)]^{1-\gamma} \quad (16)$$

Thus we are led to the concept of a set of "orthogonal filters" whose impulse responses satisfy eqn. (16). If such a set of filters could be realized the coefficients  $a_n$  would be obtained simply by switching in each of the filters in turn and determining the corresponding averages  $\overline{X_1(n; t)x_2(t)}$ .

Naturally, in any practical system only a finite number, say  $(N+1)$ , of filters would be used.

### (2.4) Resynthesis of the Correlation Function

We see that eqn. (3) can be written

$$\psi(\tau) = [\omega(\tau)]^{2\gamma-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \theta_n(\tau) [\omega(\tau)]^{1-\gamma}, \quad 0 \leq \tau < \infty \quad (17)$$

or

$$\psi(t) = [\omega(t)]^{2\gamma-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n h_n(t), \quad 0 \leq t < \infty \quad (18)$$

where, in passing from eqn. (17) to eqn. (18), use has been made of eqn. (16) coupled with a change of variable from  $\tau$  to  $t$ .

\* In practice this mean value would be determined by passing the multiplier output through a suitable low-pass filter or integrating device whose time-constant was sufficiently long to reduce the residual fluctuations about the mean to an acceptable value. Expressions for the r.m.s. value of this fluctuation have been given for a number of averaging devices by Davenport *et al.*<sup>5</sup>

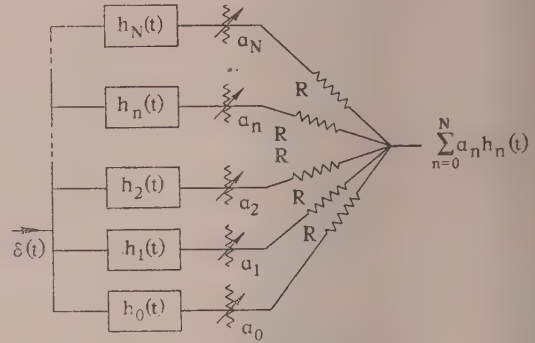


Fig. 2.—Basic resynthesis system.

Now consider the system of Fig. 2. Here each filter is followed by an adjustable attenuator and the outputs of the attenuators are summed in a linear adding network. The attenuators are set so that their transmissions are proportional to the previously measured coefficients†  $a_n$ .

Clearly, then, if a unit impulse  $\delta(t)$  is applied at the input to the system, the output of the adding network is just the summation term of eqn. (18) approximated by taking only the first  $(N+1)$  terms.

Thus we may write as an approximation to  $\psi(t)$ ,

$$\psi_N(t) = [\omega(t)]^{2\gamma-1} \sum_{n=0}^N a_n h_n(t), \quad 0 \leq t < \infty \quad (19)$$

In particular, if  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$ , we have

$$\psi_N(t) = \sum_{n=0}^N a_n h_n(t), \quad 0 \leq t < \infty \quad (20)$$

when now, using the notation of eqn. (8), we must have

$$h_n(t) = \phi_n(t) \quad (21)$$

Thus in this case it is seen that the output of the adding network could be applied direct to the plates of a cathode-ray oscillograph; the approximate correlation function would then be seen on the screen as a transient following the application of the input impulse. A convenient system results if in fact the pulsing can be carried out repetitively at intervals that are long compared with the filter time-constants, and yet sufficiently frequent to give a steady trace on the cathode-ray-oscilloscope screen. This can always be arranged in practice, as the resynthesis filters, while being of the same form as those used for the determination of the coefficients, can be built on a different time scale.

It will be noticed from eqn. (18) that these methods give the correlation function  $\psi(t)$  only for  $0 \leq t < \infty$ , but in general negative values of the delay parameter  $\tau$  are also required. However, it follows from the definition in eqn. (2) that

$$\psi_{12}(-\tau) = \psi_{21}(\tau) \quad (22)$$

so that it is necessary only to repeat the procedure with the "linear network" and the "direct connection," in the system of Fig. 1, interchanged, to cater for all values of  $\tau$ . The difficulty does not arise, of course, in the case of auto-correlation.

### (2.5) Two Realizable Systems based on the Weight Function

$$\omega(t) = \alpha e^{-\alpha t}$$

The applicability of all the preceding theory depends on realizing a set of filters whose impulse responses satisfy eqn. (16).

† In general some of the  $a_n$  would be negative, so it is assumed that an ideal polarity reversal is provided where necessary (see Section 3.1).

The polynomials  $\theta_n(t)$  and hence the impulse responses  $h_n(t)$  depend only on the weight function  $\omega(t)$  and the parameter  $\gamma$ .

In this Section we shall choose  $\omega(t) = \alpha e^{-\alpha t}$  and show that this choice leads to realizable filters of a simple type. Two such filters, corresponding to  $\gamma = 0$  and  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$  respectively, will be described.

The polynomials associated with the weight function  $\alpha e^{-\alpha t}$  in the range zero to infinity are just those of Laguerre, whose series representation, in a form convenient for our purposes, is\*

$$L_n(\alpha t) = \sum_{s=0}^n \frac{n!}{(n-s)!} \frac{(-\alpha t)^s}{s!} \quad (23)$$

The relation corresponding to eqn. (4) is

$$\int_0^\infty \alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t) L_m(\alpha t) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & m \neq n \\ 1 & m = n \end{cases} \quad (24)$$

As a further preliminary we now introduce the Laplace transform of a function  $f(t)$  defined (Reference 6, p. 4) by the relation

$$\mathcal{L}_p[f(t)] = \int_0^\infty f(t) e^{-pt} dt \quad (25)$$

By using the series expansion of eqn. (23), interchanging the order of summation and integration, and noting that the resulting series is just a binomial expansion, it is easy to show that

$$\mathcal{L}_p[\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t)] = \frac{\alpha}{p + \alpha} \left( \frac{p}{p + \alpha} \right)^n \quad (26)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_p \left[ \frac{\alpha}{2} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} t} L_n(\alpha t) \right] = \frac{\alpha/2}{p + \alpha/2} \left( \frac{p}{p + \alpha/2} \right)^n \quad (27)$$

Now consider the filter of Fig. 3.

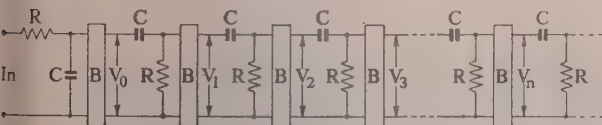


Fig. 3.—Laguerre function filter:  $\gamma = 0$ .

Here B is a buffer stage which has, ideally, an infinite input resistance, zero output resistance and unity gain. However,

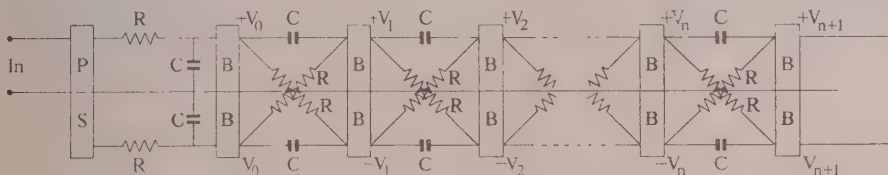


Fig. 4.—Laguerre function filter:  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$ .

PS—phase splitter.

non-ideal values of these parameters are easily allowed for, while in practice a cathode follower is virtually "ideal."

It is easy to see that the recurrence relation

$$\mathcal{L}_p[V_{n+1}(t)] = \frac{p}{p + \alpha} \mathcal{L}_p[V_n(t)] \quad (28)$$

is satisfied for  $0 \leq n < N$  where  $\alpha = \frac{1}{RC}$ .

\* Using the Pochhammer-Barnes (Reference 3, p. 99) notation for the confluent hypergeometric function, eqn. (23) may be written

$$L_n(\alpha t) = {}_1F_1[-n; 1; \alpha t]$$

Thus it follows that the impulse response  $h_n(t)$ , which is just the  $V_n(t)$  obtained when  $\delta(t)$  is applied at the input, satisfies the equation

$$\mathcal{L}_p[h_n(t)] = \frac{\alpha}{p + \alpha} \left( \frac{p}{p + \alpha} \right)^n \quad (29)$$

On comparing eqn. (29) with eqn. (26), it follows from Lerch's theorem (Reference 6, p. 345) on the uniqueness of Laplace transforms that

$$h_n(t) = \alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t) \quad (30)$$

which is of the form shown in eqn. (16) with  $\gamma = 0$  for the given weight function.

Another filter based on the same weight function is the lattice structure of Fig. 4.

In this case it is easy to show that the recurrence relation corresponding to eqn. (28) is now

$$\mathcal{L}_p[V_{n+1}(t)] = \left( \frac{p - \alpha/2}{p + \alpha/2} \right) \mathcal{L}_p[V_n(t)] \quad (31)$$

where  $\frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{1}{RC}$ .

Thus the impulse response satisfies the equation

$$\mathcal{L}_p[h_n(t)] = \frac{\alpha/2}{p + \alpha/2} \left( \frac{p - \alpha/2}{p + \alpha/2} \right)^n \quad (32)$$

and a comparison of eqns. (32) and (27) now gives

$$h_n(t) = \frac{\alpha}{2} e^{-\frac{\alpha}{2} t} L_n(\alpha t) \quad (33)$$

which, except for a constant factor, is again of the form shown in eqn. (16) but with  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2}$ . Thus this filter is the "symmetric" case.

We note† that this last filter is related to one devised by Lee.<sup>7</sup> Lossless inductances are required in his filter, however, and would lead to difficulties especially at low frequencies. Lee's filters were developed to provide a systematic way of realizing arbitrary filter impulse responses, and it is obvious that the filters described above could be used in the same way.

We note finally in this Section that the use of an exponential weight function is sensible from the statistical point of view as

the correlation function of a simple Markovian process is exponential and hence is represented by the first term only of the series expansion in the Laguerre system, provided that the parameter  $\alpha$  (i.e. the time-constant) in the weight function is chosen appropriately.

In a recent paper Reich and Swerling<sup>8</sup> have also proposed that an expansion of auto-correlation functions in a Laguerre system might be convenient in connection with some detectability problems.

† The author is indebted to Mr. Newstead, of the University of Tasmania, for bringing this reference to his attention.



## (3) A PRACTICAL CORRELATOR

An auto-correlator based on an 11-stage ( $N = 10$ ) filter of the type shown in Fig. 3 has been built. Although not quite as convenient in some ways as the "symmetric" filter, this filter is simpler to construct and in any case adequately demonstrates the main features of the method in the paper. It will be seen from eqn. (7) that for this filter the integral

$$\int_0^{\infty} [\psi(\tau) - \psi_N(\tau)]^2 e^{-\alpha\tau} d\tau \quad (34)$$

is minimized, and in practice this may be rather more desirable than the uniform weighting obtained with the "symmetric" filter.

## (3.1) Circuit Details

The complete circuit of the filter is shown in Fig. 5. It will be seen that the electronic circuit technique is very simple:

described in four separate stages corresponding to the setting of switch SA.

*Stage 1.*—With switch SA in position 1, a sine wave, whose frequency is high (say 25 kc/s when  $\alpha = 1000$ ) compared to the reciprocal of the basic filter time-constant, is fed into the grid circuit of the buffer stage V1b. By means of switch SB the vacuum-tube voltmeter is connected to the output of each filter stage in turn and the "coefficient" potentiometers are adjusted so that the outputs of all stages are identical, thus compensating for the cumulative effect of the small cathode-follower losses.

*Stage 2.*—Switch SA is next placed in position 2 which connects the signal whose auto-correlation is to be determined to the input of the filter. One input to the multiplier is permanently connected to this signal input, while, by means of switch SB the other multiplier input is connected to the output of each stage of the filter in turn and the corresponding mean products are determined.

The multiplication and averaging is performed by a feedback

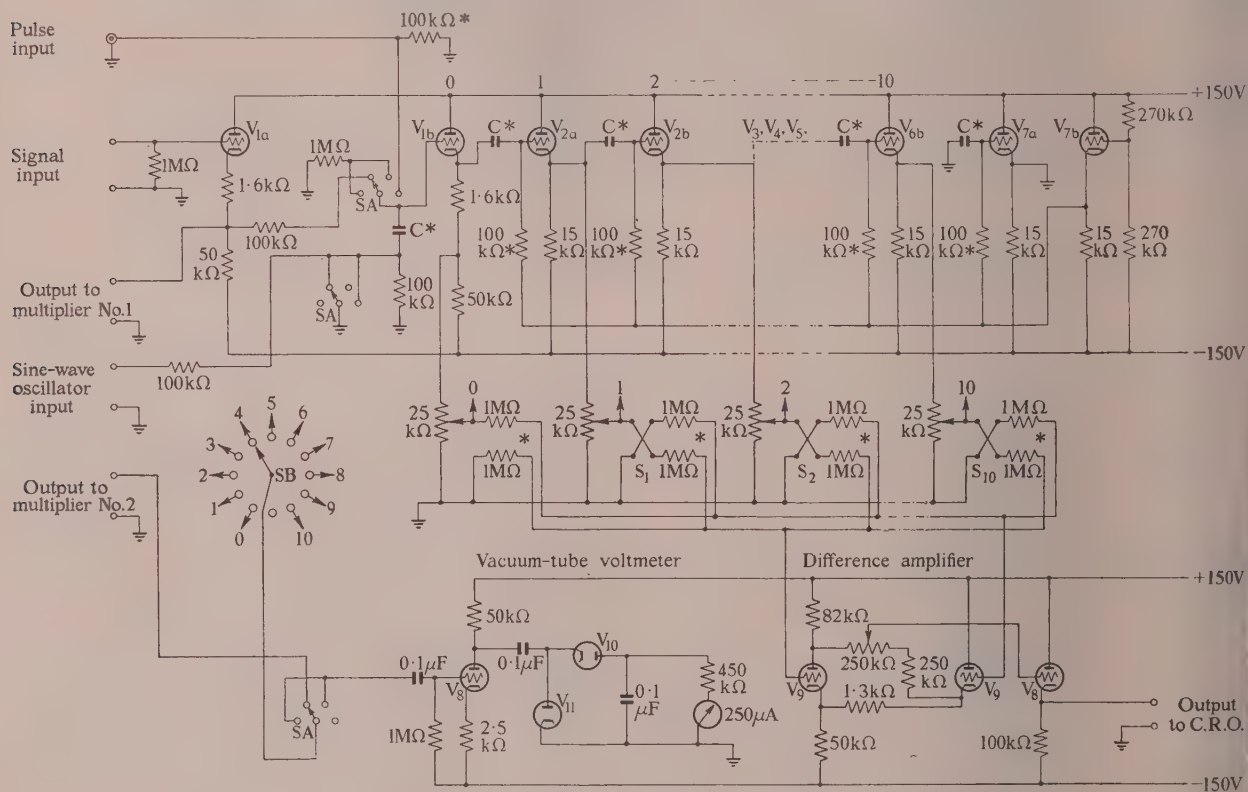


Fig. 5.—Laguerre function filter: detailed circuit.

- Switch SA  
 (1) Set potentiometers.  
 (2) Measure.  
 (3) Reset potentiometer.  
 (4) Pulse.
- V<sub>1</sub>–V<sub>9</sub>: 6SN7.  
 V<sub>10</sub>–V<sub>11</sub>: 6X50.  
 C: Condensers (mounted in separate plug-in unit).

\* denotes "to be matched carefully."

with the exception of the peak-to-peak diode voltmeter and the difference amplifier, it consists entirely of cathode followers. By means of V7 and its associated components, all the cathodes of valves V2–V6 are arranged to be normally at earth potential, and hence the d.c. levels of the outputs to the multiplier are independent of the "coefficient" potentiometer settings. The condensers, C, are all mounted in a single plug-in unit so that the basic time-constant of the filter can be changed at will.

The operation of the correlator will be most conveniently

dynamometer system followed by a Miller integrator whose time constant is variable from 1 to 1000 sec. The mean products are read direct on a voltmeter connected to the output of the integrator. The accuracy of the multiplier is about 1%, and frequency response is essentially flat from direct current up to about 15 kc/s. A description of the multiplier and integrator will be published elsewhere.

*Stage 3.*—With switch SA in position 3 the high-frequency sine wave is again connected to the buffer stage V1b. Using the

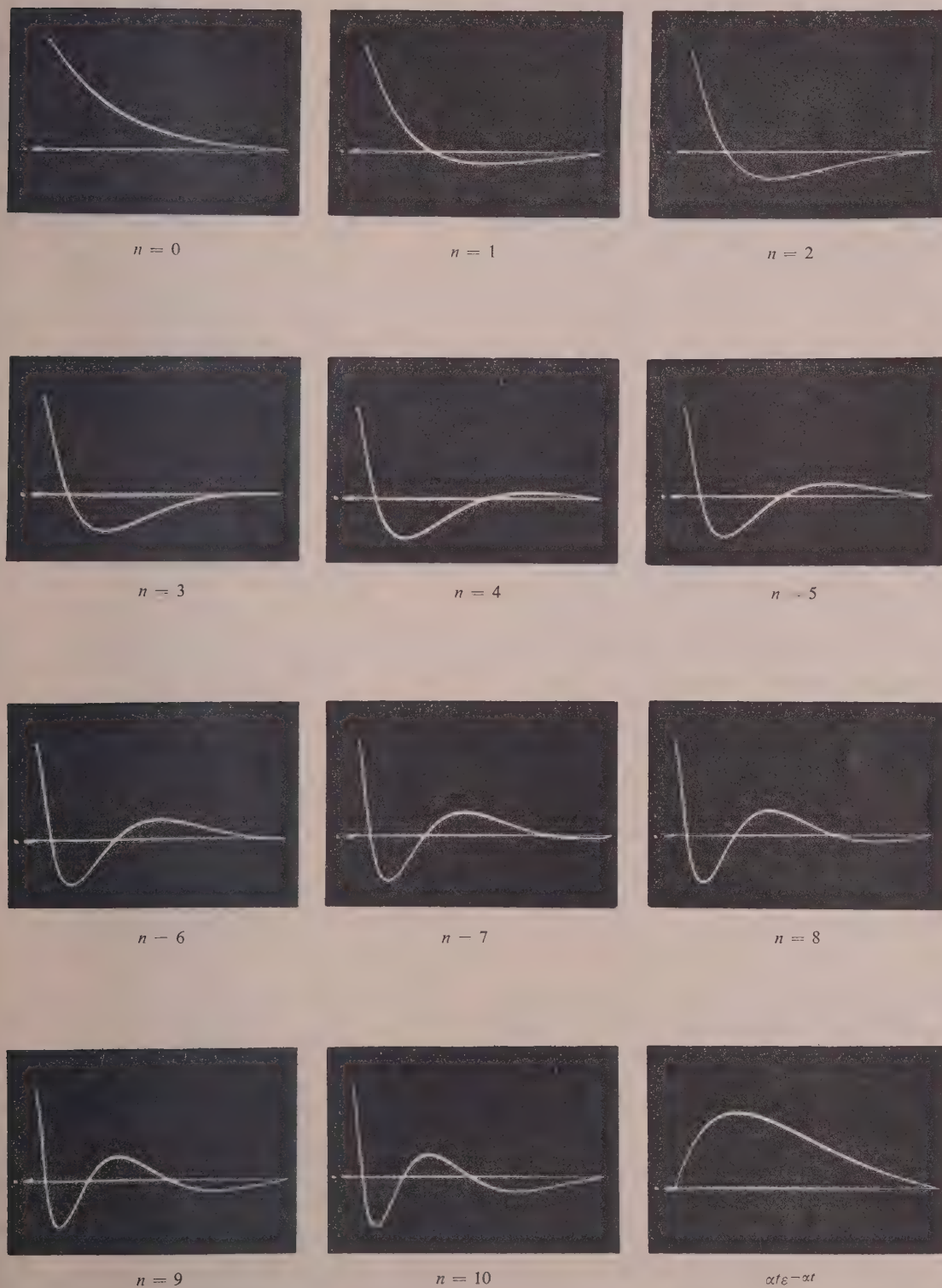


Fig. 6.—The Laguerre functions  $\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t)$ .



vacuum-tube voltmeter and switch SB the "coefficient" potentiometers are now readjusted so that the output from each stage of the filter is proportional to the corresponding mean product determined in the previous step. In general, some of these mean products will be negative. To cope with these in the resynthesis process, two summing networks are provided, their outputs being connected to the two inputs of a "perfect" difference amplifier. By means of the switches S1-S10 the output of any given stage of the filter can be connected to either one of these summing networks, so that its contribution to the difference amplifier output may be made positive or negative.

*Stage 4.*—Finally by placing switch SA in position 4 a pulse generator which is triggered by the cathode-ray-oscillograph time-base flyback pulse is connected to the filter input, and the output from the difference amplifier is applied to the vertical plates of the oscillograph. With this filter the function  $\alpha e^{-\alpha t} \psi_N(t)$  is then obtained on the screen. A simple multiplication by  $e^{\alpha t}/\alpha$  then yields the desired approximate auto-correlation function,  $\psi_N(t)$ . This last multiplication would have been avoided, of course, if the "symmetric" filter had been used instead. The time scale of the oscillograph trace is easily calibrated by comparison with the trace of  $\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t)$ , whose zero occurs at  $\alpha t = 1$ .

### (3.2) Results

The impulse responses  $\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_n(\alpha t)$  were photographed direct from the oscillograph screen and are shown in Fig. 6. Because of the heavy damping by the exponential factor and the time scale used, only the first few zeros are apparent.

To demonstrate the difference-amplifier system, mentioned in the previous Section, the function

$$\alpha(\alpha t)e^{-\alpha t} = [\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_0(\alpha t)] - [\alpha e^{-\alpha t} L_1(\alpha t)] \quad (35)$$

is also shown in Fig. 6. The possibilities of the system for generating arbitrary transients are obvious.

As a test on the performance of the whole system as an auto-correlator, a sine-wave input was used. The auto-correlation function of a sine wave\* of peak amplitude  $V_0$  and frequency  $\omega/2\pi$  is just

$$\psi(\tau) = \frac{V_0^2}{2} \cos \omega \tau \quad (36)$$

The coefficients  $a_n$  are then given by

$$a_n = \frac{V_0^2}{2} \int_0^\infty \alpha e^{-\alpha \tau} L_n(\alpha \tau) \cos \omega \tau d\tau \quad (37)$$

By writing the cosine as the sum of exponentials, using the series of eqn. (23), followed by term-wise integration, it is easy to show that

$$a_n = \frac{V_0^2}{2} \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}} \right]^n \sin(n+1)\theta \quad (38)$$

where  $\tan \theta = \frac{\alpha}{\omega}$

$$= \frac{V_0^2}{2} \frac{\alpha \omega}{\alpha^2 + \omega^2} \left[ \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}} \right]^n U_n \left[ \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}} \right] \quad (39)$$

where  $U_n(x)$  is the Chebyshev polynomial (Reference 3, p. 3) of the second kind.

\* The frequency of the sine wave used was 152 c/s, and the basic time-constant of the filter was such that  $\alpha = 843 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ .

It follows from eqn. (40) that†

$$\frac{a_n}{a_1} = \frac{x^{n-2} U_n(x)}{2} \quad (40)$$

where  $x = \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}}$ .

This ratio, as given by eqn. (40), is plotted in Fig. 7. Also shown are the corresponding ratios determined experimentally

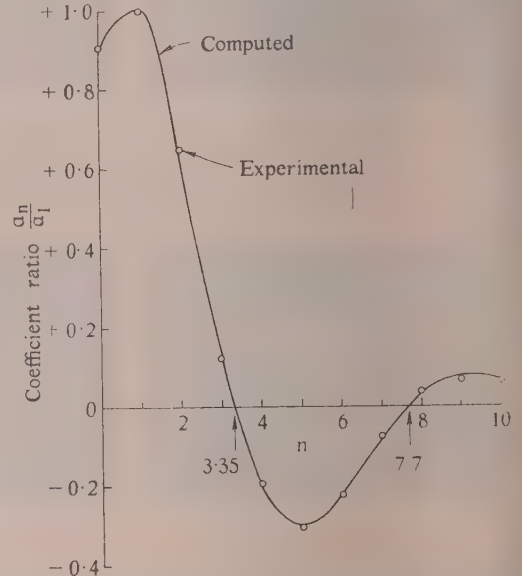


Fig. 7.—Expansion coefficients for cosine correlation function in Laguerre system:  $\gamma = 0$ .

$$\frac{a_n}{a_1} = \frac{x^{n-2} U_n(x)}{2}, \text{ where } x = \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)}}$$

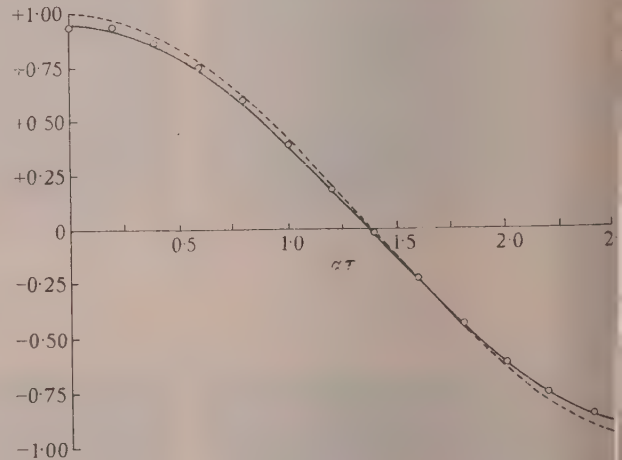


Fig. 8.—The approximation of a cosine correlation function by the partial sum of its series expansion in Laguerre polynomials.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{---} \cos \left( \frac{\omega}{\alpha} \tau \right) \\ & \text{---} \sum_{n=0}^{10} a_n L_n(\alpha \tau) \text{ with } a_n = \int_0^\infty \alpha e^{-\alpha \tau} L_n(\alpha \tau) \cos \omega \tau d\tau \\ & \circ \circ \circ \text{ Points giving } \sum_{n=0}^{10} a'_n L_n(\alpha \tau), \text{ with } a'_n \text{ determined experimentally.} \end{aligned}$$

† It is readily seen that the coefficient  $a_0$  depends on the d.c. level (mean) of the input whose auto-correlation function is being determined. For this reason the coefficient ratios are taken with respect to  $a_1$  rather than  $a_0$ .

in Fig. 8 the first half-cycle of the correlation function, eqn. (36), is shown. In the same figure a curve showing the sum of the first 11 terms in its Laguerre polynomial expansion is plotted, and points representing this same sum—but based on measured rather than calculated coefficients—are also given for comparison.

We note here that several examples of expressions of simple functions in a Laguerre system, and their approximation by a finite number of terms, have been given in a recent paper by Ward (Reference 9).

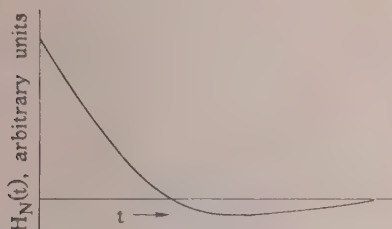


Fig. 9.—Oscillographic trace of impulse response  $H_N(t)$  of composite filter.

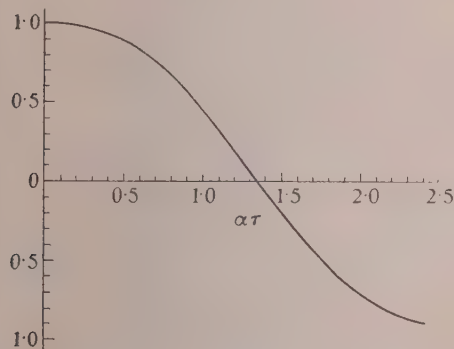


Fig. 10.—Normalized cosine correlation function recovered by exponential weighting of impulse response of composite filter (see Fig. 9).

Finally the correlation function as determined by the re-synthesis process is shown in Fig. 10, and it is readily seen to be a good approximation to the true correlation function of eqn. (36).

#### (4) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author is grateful to Miss L. J. Slater of the Mathematical Laboratory, Cambridge, for her kindness in supplying a special table of Laguerre polynomials, and to Mr. J. F. Barrett and Dr. K. F. Sander for reading the text and suggesting several improvements. This work was carried out while the author was the holder of a C.S.I.R.O. (Australia) Studentship and was working at the Engineering Laboratory, Cambridge, under the supervision of Dr. K. F. Sander.

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# FORMATIVE TIME-LAG STUDIES WITH HIGH-FREQUENCY DISCHARGES

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## SUMMARY

Experiments with discharges between non-uniform electrodes at frequencies in the region of 1 to 15 Mc/s are described. It was found that, above a certain critical frequency, the discharge was able to cross the gap completely, whereas the discharge at direct current or 50 c/s with the same electrodes would take the form of a localized corona envelope.

By using pulse techniques, it was possible to measure the formative time-lags for h.f. discharges, using concentric-cylinder and parallel-wire electrodes. A lowering of the breakdown voltage of some 13% was observed to take place above the critical frequency.

A tentative qualitative explanation is proposed of some of the observed results.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

Electrical discharges between electrodes having a non-uniform field distribution display interesting and unusual properties when the frequency of the applied voltage is in the region of 1 to 15 Mc/s. One of the reasons for this is that positive ions produced in the discharge, owing to their relatively lower mobility compared with electrons, have a transit time which may be less than the period of a half-cycle of applied voltage. Such ions are not swept to the electrodes but can remain in the gap, and indeed their number increases with each succeeding half-cycle, resulting in the accumulation of an appreciable space-charge.<sup>1,2,3</sup>

One property of such an r.f. discharge is that complete breakdown of the gap can take place at a frequency of a few megacycles per second whereas at 50 c/s only a stable corona discharge would be observed with the same electrode geometry. There is clearly a region in the frequency band where the discharge changes from the corona region to a region where a discharge completely crosses the gap between electrodes. In the work which is described below, an investigation was made of this region using concentric-cylinder and parallel-wire electrode configurations.

The work formed part of a more general study of the r.f. discharge in gases at Queen Mary College, University of London.

## (2) APPARATUS

The apparatus consisted basically of an r.f. oscillator which was coupled inductively to a tuned circuit, the test electrodes contributing part of the tuning capacitance. With this arrangement it was possible to produce a voltage of up to 8 kV at frequencies from 1 to 15 Mc/s. The voltage across the electrodes was measured by a simple diode-voltmeter and an electrostatic voltmeter. In order that pulse voltages would be accurately measured, considerable care was taken with insulation of the voltmeter. The discharge time-constant of the voltmeter was about 20 min. Using the criteria developed by Burges,<sup>4</sup> it was arranged that the voltmeter error when measuring 50 microsec pulses at 50 c/s repetition frequency would be extremely small.

The voltmeter was carefully calibrated at 50 c/s by three independent methods, and the overall error was estimated to be less than  $\pm 2\%$ .

The applied r.f. voltage was either in pulses with a repetition frequency of 50 c/s or alternatively in non-recurrent pulses or pulses with a repetition rate of one per second. The duration of these pulses could be varied from about 10 to 2 000 microsec.

Timing and triggering circuits were incorporated so that the envelope of the r.f. voltage across the test electrodes could be displayed on one beam of a double-beam oscillograph, a train of timing pulses being displayed on the second beam. The interval between the sharp timing pulses could be either 20 or 50 microsec.

## (3) ELECTRODE CONFIGURATION

The concentric-cylinder electrodes consisted of a tinned copper wire suspended vertically inside a copper cylinder, the tube being earthed and the voltage applied to the wire. The tube was 46 cm long and 5 cm in diameter. The ends of the tube were flared to avoid sharp edges which might lead to breakdown. The electrodes were mounted inside a light-tight box, and discharges could be observed by means of an inclined mirror arranged some distance vertically below the wire. Fresh air could be drawn slowly through the box by means of a small electric fan. This removed any accumulation of unwanted gases such as ozone, which were present after periods of corona.

In order to facilitate observation and photography, a second electrode system was constructed with a short cylinder of 3.8 cm diameter and 5 cm long. In this case, the wire was coated with polystyrene over all except for a short section at the mid-point of the wire. In this way the discharge was localized and could be placed at the focal point of a camera lens.

For tests with parallel wires a third arrangement was used. One of the wires was fixed on a block of polystyrene which was so constructed that the wire could be tightened with screws. The second wire was also fixed on a polystyrene block. The two blocks were suitably supported so that the wires could be made exactly parallel and the distance between the wires could be adjusted and measured by means of a micrometer head.

For wire spacings from 0.5 to 10 mm, the greatest divergence from the parallel was less than 0.1%.

The wires used in the concentric-cylinder tests were tinned copper fuse wires. The greatest divergence from the nominal diameter of these wires was, with one exception,  $\pm 1.5\%$ . Microscopic examination showed that the wire surface was extremely smooth with few irregularities.

In the parallel-wire tests, both tungsten and tinned-copper wire were used. Tungsten wire, after being annealed and polished was convenient to use because it could withstand a number of discharges without melting.

The usual methods were used to remove grease and dirt from electrode surfaces. Before any measurements were made, the wires were "conditioned," by allowing h.f. corona to take place over the wire surface for some minutes. This removed any small irregularities which would lead to a local field intensification.

Correspondence on monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.

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## (4) TIME-LAG MEASUREMENTS

## (4.1) Concentric Cylinder

First tests were made with concentric-cylinder electrodes. At direct current and at 50 c/s with the wire diameters used (0.234 mm–0.457 mm), breakdown took the form of a very faint corona discharge on the wire surface. The onset of corona could only be detected with accuracy by connecting a 100 000 ohm resistor in series with the outer cylinder and amplifying the voltage across this resistor. When the applied voltage was increased, the diameter and intensity of the corona envelope increased.

When pulses of 10 Mc/s at 50 pulses a second were applied to the electrodes the breakdown phenomenon was quite different. As soon as the critical voltage was reached, a bright filamentary discharge bridged the gap and the wire was covered with brilliant blue-violet streamers, most of which bridged the gap between wire and cylinder. The onset voltage was well defined.

To reduce the statistical lag, or in other words, to provide a source of free electrons in the gap, a 0.8 millicurie capsule of cobalt 60 was placed near the electrodes.

A sketch of a typical oscillogram corresponding to this discharge is shown in Fig. 1. Point A is the beginning of the

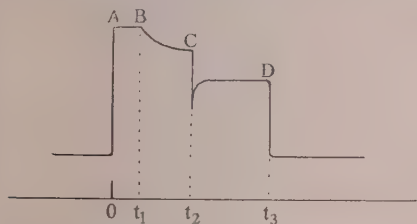


Fig. 1.—A sketch of a typical breakdown pulse.

pulse, point B corresponds to the onset of a discharge and time  $t_1$  is the statistical lag. With no irradiation, this time varied in a random manner and sometimes no discharge occurred. With adequate irradiation this time was too small to measure with the existing apparatus and was certainly less than 1 microsec.

At point C, breakdown was complete at time  $t_2$ . The interval ( $t_2 - t_1$ ) was taken to be the formative lag. It was found that this time had a definite minimum value, which could be determined either by applying about one hundred pulses and observing the minimum value of  $t_2$  ( $t_1$  was normally zero) or by applying 50 pulses a second and noting  $t_2$  on the oscillogram of the superimposed discharges. The discrepancy between the results obtained from the two methods was about 10%. As was to be expected, the time-lag decreased rapidly with increased over-voltage, but, if the breakdown voltage was determined accurately by raising the applied voltage slowly, the time-lag results could be reproduced readily.

The results, shown in the curves of Fig. 2, indicate that, at frequencies above about 4 Mc/s, the time-lag tended to a constant value which was determined by the wire diameter.

The validity of the procedure adopted was proved by applying a pulse whose amplitude was equal to the measured breakdown voltage, but whose duration was less than the measured formative time-lag. In this case, the discharge filament did not completely bridge the gap and it was possible to photograph a mid-gap "chopped" spark.<sup>5</sup> By photographing streamers in this way, using pulses at a repetition frequency of 50 c/s, varying the pulse duration and measuring the maximum length of the discharge, it was possible to estimate the speed of progress of the discharge.

As the frequency was reduced below 4 Mc/s, the time-lag began to rise quite rapidly and tended to very large values below

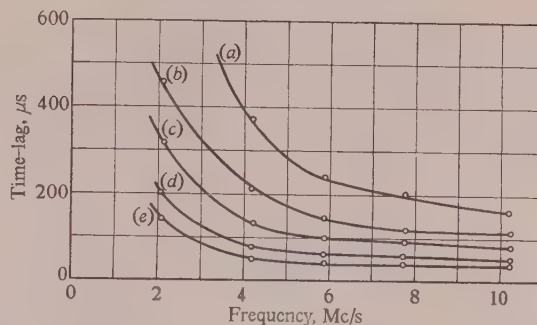


Fig. 2.—Minimum time-lag between application of r.f. pulses and complete breakdown, at various frequencies.

Concentric-cylinder electrodes: radius of outer cylinder, 25 mm.  
(a) Inner-wire diameter, 0.234 mm.  
(b) 0.274 mm. (c) 0.316 mm. (d) 0.376 mm. (e) 0.457 mm.

3 Mc/s. In fact there was a critical frequency below which the discharge was unable to bridge the gap, and so the time-lag was infinite.

The variation of breakdown voltage with frequency is shown in Fig. 3. It will be noted that there is a well-defined region over which the breakdown voltage decreased with increasing

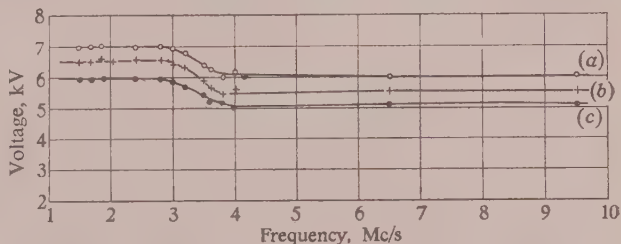


Fig. 3.—Variation of r.f. breakdown voltage with frequency for concentric-cylinder electrodes.

Radius of outer cylinder, 25 mm.  
(a) Inner-wire diameter, 0.316 mm.  
(b) 0.274 mm. (c) 0.234 mm.

frequency. This critical frequency range is close to that at which the time-lag was observed to change rapidly with frequency. As will be gathered from the discussion, there is good reason to suppose that the two phenomena are closely related.

With a wire of 0.316 mm diameter, a cylinder of 38 mm diameter and frequency of 3.4 Mc/s, the speed of progress of the discharge across the gap was about  $4 \times 10^4$  cm/sec.

## (4.2) Parallel Wires

With parallel wires an attempt was made to specify the breakdown voltage more accurately. Pulses with a repetition rate of one per second were applied to the gap, and the breakdown voltage was taken to be the value corresponding to the gap breaking down for 50% of the applied pulses. The time-lag was then determined in a manner similar to that for the previous case.

Typical results of these tests are shown in Fig. 4. It will be noted that the curves are of the same general shape as those in Fig. 2, but the minimum value of time-lag was much less with twin wires than with concentric cylinders.

Once more it was found that, provided the frequency was low enough, the discharge was unable to bridge the gap.

If the mean speed of progress of the streamer was calculated by dividing the gap distance by the time-lag, a similar result was obtained as in the case of concentric cylinders.

For a wire diameter of 0.10 mm and a wire spacing of 5 mm,



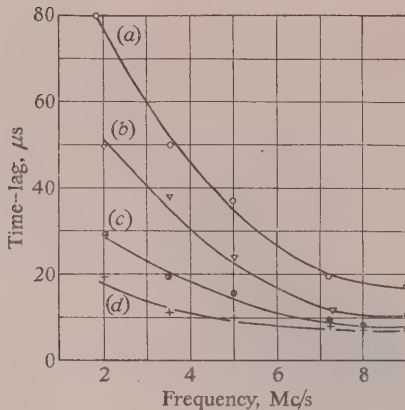


Fig. 4.—Formative time-lag of parallel-wire electrodes.

Wire diameter = 0.20 mm.  
Spacing between wires:  
(a) 8 mm. (c) 6 mm.  
(b) 7 mm. (d) 5 mm.

the streamer speed at 3.5 Mc/s was  $7.8 \times 10^4$  cm/sec, which is the same order as the value obtained with the concentric-cylinder arrangement. It was found that the time-lag could be shortened considerably if large over-voltages were used. This is a well-known phenomenon in d.c. time-lag studies.

#### (5) DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The main interest of these results lies in the marked difference between the breakdown phenomena of a given gap under r.f. and d.c. conditions. The electrode geometries were such that at d.c. or 50 c/s breakdown would take the form of a gentle corona discharge at the surface of one or both of the wires. With the r.f. discharge, however, complete breakdown would usually occur, provided that the frequency were high enough, since the discharge had to progress into a region of progressively lower electric field. The explanation of the observed results must almost certainly be connected with the accumulation of positive ions which was mentioned in the introduction; but any attempt at a detailed analysis would encounter very great difficulty.

Before discussing the possible mechanism by which the h.f. discharge propagates, it is convenient to examine the mechanism of positive and negative d.c. corona.

With negative-wire corona the progress of electron avalanches from the wire is eventually inhibited by positive space-charge which is established as the avalanche moves into the region of decreasing electric field. Under certain conditions, the space charge can interrupt the discharge, and relaxation oscillation of the type observed by Trichel can occur.

With positive-wire corona the mechanism is quite different. Now, the positive space-charge tends to extend the region of high electric field into the gap, as the space-charge field and applied field are additive. The discharge can move out across the gap until the space-charge field can no longer outweigh the reduction in field determined by the electrode geometry. A stable visible corona discharge is then established around the wire.

At low frequencies, positive and negative corona will take place alternately at the successive peaks of applied voltage. Again the corona is localized about the surface of the wire. During the intervals between voltage peaks, most of the positive ions and free electrons remaining in the gap are swept to the electrodes.

Having examined the reasons for the localized nature of l.f. and d.c. corona, we may now attempt to explain why the h.f. corona can completely cross the gap between electrodes.<sup>1</sup>

It is fairly well established that positive ions are able to perform mid-gap oscillations in uniform field gaps under certain conditions of electric field, gap distance and frequency. The fact that these ions tend to accumulate in the gap to form a space charge is considered to be the mechanism which causes the well-known "critical-gap"<sup>1,2,6</sup> phenomenon and the observed lowering of breakdown voltage which occurs at frequencies in the region of 1 to 15 Mc/s with gap spacings of 0.5–5 mm.

A similar critical-gap phenomenon occurs with concentric cylinder electrodes. This is shown clearly in the curves of Fig. 4. One of the authors<sup>2</sup> has developed a semi-empirical equation for this case giving the frequency at which positive ions can perform oscillations close to the central wire without touching it. This is of the form:

$$f_c = \frac{AV}{(B^2 - r^2) \log(R/r)}$$

where  $V$  is the peak value of the applied voltage,  $A$  is a constant,  $B$  is a factor which depends on the gap geometry and the gas, and  $R$ ,  $r$  are the radii of the outer and inner cylinders respectively.

Above this critical frequency, positive-ion space charge will accumulate in the gap and there is a lowering of the breakdown voltage. With the present dimensions the critical frequency was between 2 and 3 Mc/s with concentric cylinders.

A possible mechanism envisaged by the authors is the following. For simplicity, we will consider the case of a thin wire surrounded by a concentric cylinder.

Fatechand<sup>3</sup> showed that, if the frequency were high enough, positive ions could be detected in the gap before the voltage was high enough to cause a visible discharge. The resulting positive space-charge would enhance the field at the wire surface at the peak value of the negative half-cycle. Thus the value of applied voltage necessary to cause onset of a discharge would be lower than that which would be required in the absence of space charge. The magnitude of this effect is seen in Fig. 3 to be a lowering by about 13% of the l.f. corona voltage value.

During the interval between the peak of the negative half-cycle and that of the positive half-cycle (about  $10^{-7}$  sec) not all the positive ions would be swept to the electrodes. The ions which remained would find themselves fairly close to the surface of the wire when it reached its maximum positive voltage.

At the positive voltage peak, a discharge would again proceed from the wire. At low frequencies, we saw that the distance which the corona could propagate was largely determined by the magnitude of the positive space-charge produced. At high frequencies, it is seen that the positive ions produced by the electron avalanche would be augmented by the positive ions left over from the preceding negative half-cycle. Further positive ions would be produced during the next negative half-cycle, but the discharge would not progress further across the gap because of the inhibiting effect of the space charge. However, when the wire was again positive, the discharge would again move further across the gap, since the applied and space-charge fields would add.

In this way, the discharge channel would move from wire to outer cylinder in a series of steps, making up for the progressively lower field due to electrode geometry by its increasing positive space-charge. Consideration of the results show that, at 10 Mc/s, some 2 000 half-cycles were required for complete breakdown. Photographs showed that the progress of the discharge was very uncertain and forked, which is a slight indirect evidence of space-charge effect.

No mention has been made of the influence of electrons, apart from the electron avalanches.

The frequencies under consideration were too low to allow the

electron transit time to be of much importance. Any electrons which survived a half-cycle would tend to neutralize the positive space-charge.

Some indirect evidence in favour of the proposed mechanism can be found in the very short time-lags found with h.f. discharges<sup>7</sup> in uniform fields. Here, the discharge is not required to move into a region of steadily decreasing field and no relatively slow step-by-step progress would be expected.

It is not suggested that the above explanation is anything more than a reasonable possibility. In this field of gas discharges, it is difficult to do more than offer tentative explanations for the observed phenomena, as quantitative analysis of the problem is at the moment virtually impossible owing to the many unknown parameters.

The tentative explanation proposed by the authors can only be approximately true, since the effect of electron space-charges has not been considered, but it is thought that the influence of these would be small.

It might be possible to go a little further towards solving the problem by study of the negative d.c. corona. With negative corona it is known that Trichel pulses of current of short duration occur, owing to the influence of positive space-charges. From these negative corona studies it might be possible to measure the magnitude of space charges involved. This information could be valuable in any more accurate explanation of the h.f. space-charge.

#### (6) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# THE RESPONSE OF A NON-LINEAR SYSTEM TO RANDOM NOISE

By W. E. THOMSON, M.A.

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## SUMMARY

A formula for the auto-correlation function of the output of a non-linear system, the input being random Gaussian noise, has been given in the literature for the case where the non-linear output/input relation is expressed as a power series. This formula can be simplified; the new version emphasizes the fact that intermodulation products of different orders are uncorrelated, but that contributions to the intermodulation product of a given order from different terms of the power series are completely correlated.

If the output is expressed as a series of Hermite polynomial functions of the input, rather than as a power series, each term of the series gives rise to intermodulation products of one order only.

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

$V_0$  = R.M.S. value of input noise.

$x(t)$  = Random Gaussian noise of unit r.m.s. value.

$y(t)$  = Output of non-linear system.

$\psi(\tau)$  = Auto-correlation function of  $x(t)$ .

$\Psi(\tau)$  = Auto-correlation function of  $y(t)$ .

$\mu_{mn}$  = Bivariate moment of order  $m, n$  for a bivariate normal distribution.

$H_n(x)$  = Hermite polynomial of order  $n$ . There are variations in the definition; that used in the

paper is  $H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2/2})$ .

$[f(t, \tau)]_{av}$  = Average value of  $f(t, \tau)$  over  $t$  for a fixed value of  $\tau$ .

## (1) INTRODUCTION

The response of a non-linear system to a random noise input is of sufficient interest to have been dealt with in many papers.<sup>1, 2, 5, 6</sup> The intention of the present paper is, first, to point out a simplification of a previously given formula for the case when the output is expressed as a weighted sum of powers of the input, and secondly, to demonstrate that the expression of the non-linear output/input relation as a weighted sum of Hermite polynomials leads more directly to the division of the output into intermodulation products of various orders.

The mathematical analysis of the paper has been merely outlined. In Section 3.1 in particular, a plausible demonstration, linking up with the more familiar power-series expansion, has been used, rather than a more formal proof *ab initio*.

The convention regarding auto-correlation functions differs slightly from that of most other authors. The input noise is taken as  $V_0 x(t)$ , where  $V_0$  is the r.m.s. value of the noise and hence covers the magnitude and dimensions of the noise;  $x(t)$  is a dimensionless noise function of unit r.m.s. value and its auto-correlation function is therefore normalized, i.e.  $\psi(0)$  equals unity.

## (2) OUTPUT AS POWER SERIES

Let the input  $V_0 x(t)$  be random Gaussian noise of r.m.s. value  $V_0$  and the output be

$$y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n [V_0 x(t)]^n \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

We determine  $\Psi(\tau)$ , the auto-correlation function of  $y(t)$ ; the power spectrum of  $y(t)$  can then be obtained from  $\Psi(\tau)$  by the usual methods:

$$\Psi(\tau) = [y(t)y(t+\tau)]_{av} \\ = \sum_{m,n=0}^{\infty} a_m a_n V_0^{m+n} \{ [x(t)]^m [x(t+\tau)]^n \}_{av} \quad (2)$$

where  $\{ [x(t)]^m [x(t+\tau)]^n \}_{av}$ , a time-average for fixed  $\tau$ , represents an auto-correlation function for  $m = n$ , and a cross-correlation function for  $m \neq n$ ; each such cross-correlation appears twice effectively since the same average is obtained by interchanging  $m$  and  $n$ .

Since the noise is Gaussian

$$\{ [x(t)]^m [x(t+\tau)]^n \}_{av} = \mu_{mn}$$

the bivariate moment of order  $m, n$  for a bivariate normal (i.e. Gaussian) distribution with unit variances and correlation coefficient  $\psi(\tau)$ , the auto-correlation function of  $x(t)$ . It can be shown<sup>3</sup> that

$$\mu_{mn} = \mu_{nm}$$

$$= 0$$

$$m+n \text{ odd}$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{\leq \frac{1}{2}m} \frac{m!n! [\psi(\tau)]^{m-2j}}{2^{\frac{1}{2}(n-m)+2j} j! (m-2j)! [\frac{1}{2}(n-m)+j]!} \quad \begin{matrix} m+n \text{ even} \\ n \geq m \end{matrix} \quad (3)$$

Eqns. (2) and (3) represent the previously given result and are equivalent to Middleton's<sup>1</sup> eqns. (8.4) and (8.5) and to an equation of Section 2.2 of Clavier's paper,<sup>2</sup> the latter collecting terms in powers of  $\psi(\tau)$  as far as the fourth.

The term in  $[\psi(\tau)]^n$  has a physical meaning. As shown, for example, by Rice,<sup>6</sup> random Gaussian noise can be considered as the infinite sum of elementary sinusoidal components, and  $n$ th order intermodulation products of these components in the output of a non-linear system turn out to give rise to the term in  $[\psi(\tau)]^n$  in the auto-correlation function of the output. Let us now determine the term in  $[\psi(\tau)]^r$  from eqns. (2) and (3).  $r$  will be used for the moment to avoid confusion with the  $n$  in  $\mu_{mn}$ . Contributions are obtained with  $m = r + 2j$ ,  $n = r + 2k$ , for all non-negative integral values of  $j$  and  $k$ ; hence

$$\Psi(\tau) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} [\psi(\tau)]^r \sum_{j,k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(r+2j)!(r+2k)!}{2^{j+k} j! r! k!} a_{r+2j} a_{r+2k} V_0^{r+2j+2k}$$

It can now be seen that the inner summation, with a factor removed, is in the form of a perfect square, and we get the ne formula, in which  $r$  can now be replaced by  $n$

$$\Psi(\tau) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n! [\psi(\tau)]^n \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+2j)!}{2^j j! n!} a_{n+2j} V_0^{n+2j} \right]^2 \quad (4)$$

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Mr. Thomson is at the Post Office Research Station.

it may be helpful to give the explicit form for powers up to the fifth; it is

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi(\tau) = & [a_0 + a_2 V_0^2 + 3a_4 V_0^4 + \dots]^2 \\ & + \psi(\tau)[a_1 V_0 + 3a_3 V_0^3 + 15a_5 V_0^5 + \dots]^2 \\ & + 2[\psi(\tau)]^2[a_2 V_0^2 + 6a_4 V_0^4 + \dots]^2 \\ & + 6[\psi(\tau)]^3[a_3 V_0^3 + 10a_5 V_0^5 + \dots]^2 \\ & + 24[\psi(\tau)]^4[a_4 V_0^4 + \dots]^2 \\ & + 120[\psi(\tau)]^5[a_5 V_0^5 + \dots]^2 \dots \dots \dots (5)\end{aligned}$$

in which the first line gives the d.c. component of the output, the second the undistorted output, and third and subsequent lines, second- and higher-order intermodulation products.

This simplified form of the expression for  $\Psi(\tau)$  is associated with the physical fact that, for a Gaussian input, the contributions to intermodulation products of a given order from the various powers concerned are completely correlated and add voltage-wise, as has been pointed out by Lewin<sup>4</sup> (who refers to "coherent low-order groups"); intermodulation products of different orders are uncorrelated and add powerwise.

### (3) OUTPUT AS SERIES OF HERMITE POLYNOMIALS

#### (3.1) General

The relation between output and input in a non-linear system may be expressed in a perfectly general way as

$$y(t) = f[V_0 x(t)]$$

where  $f$  is some function, possibly in analytic form, possibly an experimental curve. The power series of eqn. (1) is often used as a simple approximation to some given curve, but other expansions are possible. Eqn. (4) shows that the power series is not a very good expansion if we want to deal with intermodulation products of various orders in the output, since all powers up to infinity occur in any one term. It may be asked whether it is possible to express  $y$  as a sum of functions, each of which is associated with intermodulation products of a given order? The answer is yes. We can find functions such that if

$$y(t) = c_0 H_0[x(t)] + c_1 H_1[x(t)] + c_2 H_2[x(t)] + \dots \quad (6)$$

$$\text{then } \Psi(\tau) = c_0^2 + c_1^2 \psi(\tau) + c_2^2 2! [\psi(\tau)]^2 + \dots \quad (7)$$

A comparison of eqns. (7) and (4) shows that

$$c_n = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+2j)!}{2^j j! n!} a_{n+2j} V_0^{n+2j} \quad \dots \quad (8)$$

The functions  $H_n(x)$  have now to be found to make eqns. (1) and (6) equivalent; grouping the right-hand side of eqn. (6) to correspond to powers of  $x$  in eqn. (1) gives

$$\begin{aligned}H_0(x) &= 1 \\ H_1(x) &= x \\ H_2(x) + H_0(x) &= x^2 \\ H_3(x) + 3H_1(x) &= x^3 \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{2^j j! (n-2j)!} H_{n-2j}(x) = x^n \quad \dots \quad (9)$$

which may be solved to give

$$\begin{aligned}H_0(x) &= 1 \\ H_1(x) &= x \\ H_2(x) &= x^2 - 1 \\ H_3(x) &= x^3 - 3x \\ &\vdots \\ H_n(x) &= \sum_{j=0}^{\leq \frac{1}{2}n} \frac{(-1)^j n!}{2^j j! (n-2j)!} x^{n-2j} \quad \dots \quad (10)\end{aligned}$$

which can be recognized as the Hermite polynomials.<sup>3</sup> So, by a well-known property of these polynomials,

$$c_n = \frac{1}{n!(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(V_0 x) e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x) dx \quad \dots \quad (11)$$

which allows  $c_n$  to be determined direct from the given non-linear relation, by numerical integration if need be. The total power in  $n$ th-order intermodulation products (the d.c. and undistorted components being orders 0 and 1 respectively) is  $n!c_n^2$ .

The expansion in Hermite polynomials can sometimes be possible when the ordinary Taylor power series is not, because of discontinuities. The example in Section 3.2 illustrates this.

#### (3.2) Noise through a Half-Wave Rectifier

As an example of the method of Section 3.1, consider a half-wave rectifier for which

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= 0 \quad x \leq 0 \\ &= x \quad x \geq 0 \quad \dots \quad (12)\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$c_n = \frac{1}{n!(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \int_0^{\infty} V_0 x e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x) dx \quad \dots \quad (13)$$

the fact that

$$e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x) = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2/2})$$

allows the integral to be evaluated by integration by parts twice with special treatment for  $c_0$  and  $c_1$  and yields

$$\begin{aligned}c_0 &= V_0/(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}} & c_1 &= \frac{1}{2}V_0 \\ c_n &= \frac{(-1)^{m-1}V_0}{2^m m! (2m-1)(2\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \quad n \text{ even, } \geq 2, & c_n &= 0 \quad n \text{ odd, } \geq 3 \\ & & & \text{and } = 2m \quad \dots \quad (14)\end{aligned}$$

The resulting series for  $\Psi(\tau)$  is a special case of a series of Middleton's,<sup>5</sup> and may also be recognized as the expansion of the form given by Rice:<sup>6</sup>

$$\Psi(\tau) = \frac{V_0^2}{2\pi} \left[ \left\{ 1 - [\psi(\tau)]^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} + \psi(\tau) \arccos [-\psi(\tau)] \right] \quad (15)$$

#### (4) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author is indebted to Mr. E. C. H. Seaman, who pointed out the possibility of the type of expansion dealt with in Section 3.1, and to the Engineer-in-Chief of the Post Office for permission to make use of the information given in this paper.



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# THE FUNCTION OF BASIC ELEMENTS IN DIGITAL SYSTEMS

By C. B. SPEEDY, Ph.D., B.E.

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## SUMMARY

It is shown that electronic digital calculating machinery, and systems which represent information in digital form, may in principle be constructed from an assemblage of three basic elements. These are a bistable element for the storage of a digit, a gate for controlling the flow of digits, and a diode for controlling the direction of flow of digits. The properties and use of an element which consists of a bistable element and two gates are described, and it is then shown that the functions of this element may be realized in the form of a practical vacuum tube based upon beam-deflection principles. This tube does not lend itself to the construction of a practical large-scale store, but is better suited to extensive use in the control and arithmetic sections of a digital machine.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

The principles underlying the operation of automatic digital calculating machinery and devices which handle information in digital form were firmly established 100 years ago when Charles Babbage detailed the design for a machine to perform automatic computation. At that time manufacturing techniques were inadequate, and as a consequence the practical realization of such a machine was delayed until the mass-production methods of the present century had been established.

The past decade has seen the successful construction and operation of both the electro-mechanical and electronic forms of automatic digital calculating machinery. The electronic machines, which are significant because of their very high speed operation, have been made possible largely by the availability of conventional triodes (and pentodes, etc.) and the techniques developed primarily for use in the communication industry. The use of the triode in this manner depends not upon its linear amplifying characteristics but rather upon the non-linearities present at the extremities of its normal operating range. This suggests that the conventional triode may not necessarily be the best tube for this application, and that it may be possible to develop a tube which is more directly suited to the storage and switching requirements of high-speed digital machinery.

The idea of building special tubes for use in electronic digital calculating machinery is not new. In this field significant advances have been made in the development of numeric storage tubes. Dr. Haefl<sup>1</sup> and Rajchman<sup>2</sup> have constructed tubes for storing many hundreds of binary digits by means of electric charges retained in small cells upon an insulating surface. The demonstration by Williams<sup>3</sup> of the use of a conventional cathode-ray tube for digital-storage purposes has fostered the development of tubes free from screen imperfections. Pulse counting in computers has led to the development of tubes for performing a similar function. The Hollway<sup>4</sup> decimal counter tube, which depends for its operation upon the location of an electron beam in one or other of ten stable positions, is an example. Another approach has led to the development of special tubes for performing certain complicated computing functions. In the

Computron<sup>5</sup> an attempt has been made to devise a tube with several hundred electron beams, for computing continuously the product of two binary numbers. Dr. Katz at Toronto has developed a group of special tubes which are of simple and conventional construction. He has shown that by adopting a particular form of construction, a variety of characteristics can be obtained by slight modifications of the electrode shapes. In 1946 Sharpless<sup>6</sup> suggested a course of development based on the single-beam bistable tube, observing that the use of beam deflection rather than grid control of the target current would eliminate the need for potential-dividing circuits when connecting the output of one tube to the input of another. Jonker<sup>7,8</sup> has more recently outlined the electrical and mechanical requirements of switching tubes for use in telephony and possibly in calculating machines. He has emphasized the value of ribbon-like electron beams in this application, and also the use of a simple and conventional form of construction. As opposed to previous efforts the present work has aimed at reducing the quantity and variety of components in digital machinery by endeavouring to devise a general-purpose tube to perform the basic storage and switching functions in such machinery.

The functions of the simplest basic elements may be determined by considering the necessary and sufficient combinations of two binary numbers in a digital system. These combinations are the logical ones of conjunction and disjunction, the former corresponding to digit-by-digit multiplication and the latter to logical summation. From basic elements performing these functions, together with a third element for storing a binary digit, devices can be constructed in a simple manner for performing the operations of addition, multiplication, counting, etc. Using the terminology of digital machinery, these elements are termed a "gate" for performing the process of conjunction, a pair of "diodes" for disjunction, and a "bistable" element for the storage of a digit.

In principle the bistable element may be one or other of two kinds: either a static device in which the value of the digit is determined by the direct potential of its output, or a dynamic device whose state is indicated by either the presence or absence of a continuous succession of output pulses. Since the output signals from these elements are always applied to gate or diode elements where the logical operations are performed, it is common to use the static device in preference to the dynamic one because of the practical difficulty which is found in matching the output pulses (in both voltage and time) from two bistable elements of dynamic form.

If these elements are to be realized in practical form it is only necessary to consider the bistable and gate elements, since the diode is currently available in simple form. The observation that the output of a bistable element of static form is always connected to the input of a gate suggests a composite element consisting of a bistable element permanently connected to a gate. Symmetry suggests, as a further step, the use of two gates permanently connected to the opposite outputs of a bistable element such that one gate is open to the flow of information and the other closed when the digit stored is unity, and vice versa

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when it is zero. Although the symmetrical arrangement is not essential for the composite element, there are several devices, such as shift registers, counters, encoders, etc., where two gates are required for each bistable element. In these cases the inclusion of the second gate in the composite element does add to the element's complexity. As opposed to this, the total number of components in the device is reduced, and as seen later, the addition of the second gate does not appreciably complicate the construction of the vacuum tube designed to perform these functions. An element consisting of a bistable element and two gates is referred to here as a "binary gating" element.

To perform the function of the binary-gating element a binary-gating tube has been built. This depends for its operation upon the independent deflection of three ribbon-like electron beams and the collection of their current in a target assembly. Deflection control of the target current rather than grid control, as used in triodes, permits the output target of one tube to be connected directly to the input deflector of another without the use of potential-dividing circuits. The use of three ribbon-like electron beams rather than a single circular beam leads to a desirable electrode arrangement consisting of three simple cells each of similar construction. The beams are produced in a cylindrical form of the Pierce-type electron gun, which has the advantages of simplicity and relative ease of design. In the output part of the tube the possibility of using secondary emitting targets which are electrically floating has been considered. The main difficulty encountered was that of obtaining a high secondary-emission ratio over a long period of time. Problems also arise in the use of such tubes in supplying the secondary-emission current when connecting the output of one tube to the input of another. Consequently the use of secondary emission was abandoned, and the beam currents were used directly by suppressing the secondary emission at the targets in the normal manner.

## (2) THE BINARY-GATING ELEMENT AND ITS APPLICATIONS

The application of the binary-gating element and the diodes to the construction of a digital system is indicated by considering in detail their use in a typical portion of an arithmetic unit of an electronic digital calculating machine. The example chosen is that of a shift register with an associated binary counter, as is used in serial binary machines for the temporary storage of numbers. Such a device has not been constructed from binary-gating tubes; it is considered here simply to indicate the manner in which the tubes could be used in a practical system.

The symbol used for representing the binary-gating element is shown in Fig. 1. Terminal 1 is connected to the input of the

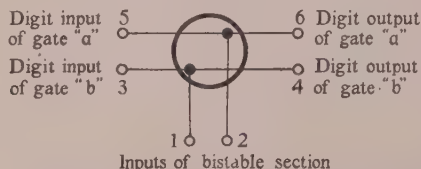


Fig. 1.—Symbol used to denote the binary-gating element.

bistable section, and when pulsed, the gate "b" is opened to permit the flow of information from terminals 3 to 4, and at the same time the gate "a" is closed to inhibit the flow from terminals 5 to 6. A pulse applied to terminal 2 reverses these conditions.

Although the symbol has been considered in terms of pulse representation of digits, the binary-gating tube is so designed that direct connections can be made between tubes. Because of this property, the use of the tube may be extended to the

application where the binary-digit representation is by means of two different voltage levels, rather than by pulses.

Continuously-generated timing pulses, termed "clock pulses"  $p_c$ , are separated by intervals of time, termed "clock periods" duration  $T$ . By the use of extra timing pulses having the same repetition frequency as the clock pulses but separated from them by some fraction of a clock period, binary-gating elements may be used as delay elements. These additional pulses are referred to here as "quarter pulses"  $p_q$ , "shift pulses"  $p_s$ , and "three-quarter pulses"  $p_{3/4}$ , all of which are shown in Fig. 2. They occur at one-quarter, one-half and three-quarters of a clock period, respectively, after the clock pulses.

Digits are transmitted by means of two lines, known as "D-bus" and "1/D-bus." Digit 1 is represented by a pulse on the D-bus and no pulse on the 1/D-bus, digit 0 being represented by the reverse conditions. The double bus is not essential, but is used in this case because it tends to simplify the circuits.

For an example of the use of the binary-gating element, consider a shift register with a capacity for 40 binary digits together with an associated counter for generating the pulses to control the flow of digit pulses to and from the register. As indicated in Fig. 2, a number entering the register upon the input bus (consisting of both the D-bus and the 1/D-bus) is preceded by a "write pulse" upon the "write-pulse bus" by an interval of one clock period. An outgoing number upon the same digit bus is preceded one clock period earlier by a "read pulse" upon the "read-pulse bus." These transfers are made possible by the continuous application of the  $p_c$ ,  $p_q$ ,  $p_s$  and  $p_{3/4}$  pulses, respectively.

To accept a number from the digit bus, the shift register is sequenced as follows: At a clock-pulse time the first digit is established in the storage element A0, as shown in Fig. 2. The next quarter pulse transfers the content of A0 to S0, the content of A1 to S1, and so on up to A40 and S40. The following pulse of the  $p_1$  group, which is generated in the associated binary counter, transfers the content of S0 to A1, the content of S1 to A2, and so on up to S39 and A40. After 40 of these operations the first digit appears in S40, the second in S39, etc., and the fortieth in S1.

Reading from the register which is initiated by a read pulse requires the 40 pulses of the  $p_2$  group to be applied to the element S40, in addition to those pulses which are required during the writing process. These pulses transfer the contents of S40 to the digit bus at clock-pulse times.

As shown in Fig. 2, the  $p_1$  pulse group is counted by means of the binary counter, which is initiated by either a read pulse or a write pulse. The 40 pulses of the  $p_2$  group which are required only during the reading process are obtained by using each of the  $p_1$  pulses to gate out the following clock pulse from the continuously-generated clock-pulse train.

Each of the six stages of the binary counter consists of a simple ring-of-two counter from which every second input pulse is gated through to the following stage. Counting is initiated either a read pulse or a write pulse, which first sets the counter to zero and then admits shift pulses to the input of the counter by opening the input gate. When 40 pulses have been counted a set of six "coincidence" gates permits the passage of a clock pulse, which closes the input gate to the counter and thus terminates the transfer operation of the register. In the example chosen it is seen that the number leaving the register during the reading process re-enters the register via the element A0. In this way the number is retained in the register. During the writing process, however, the incoming number replaces the old one.

The unit described consists of a shift register, a binary counter and some associated circuits. The binary-gating element

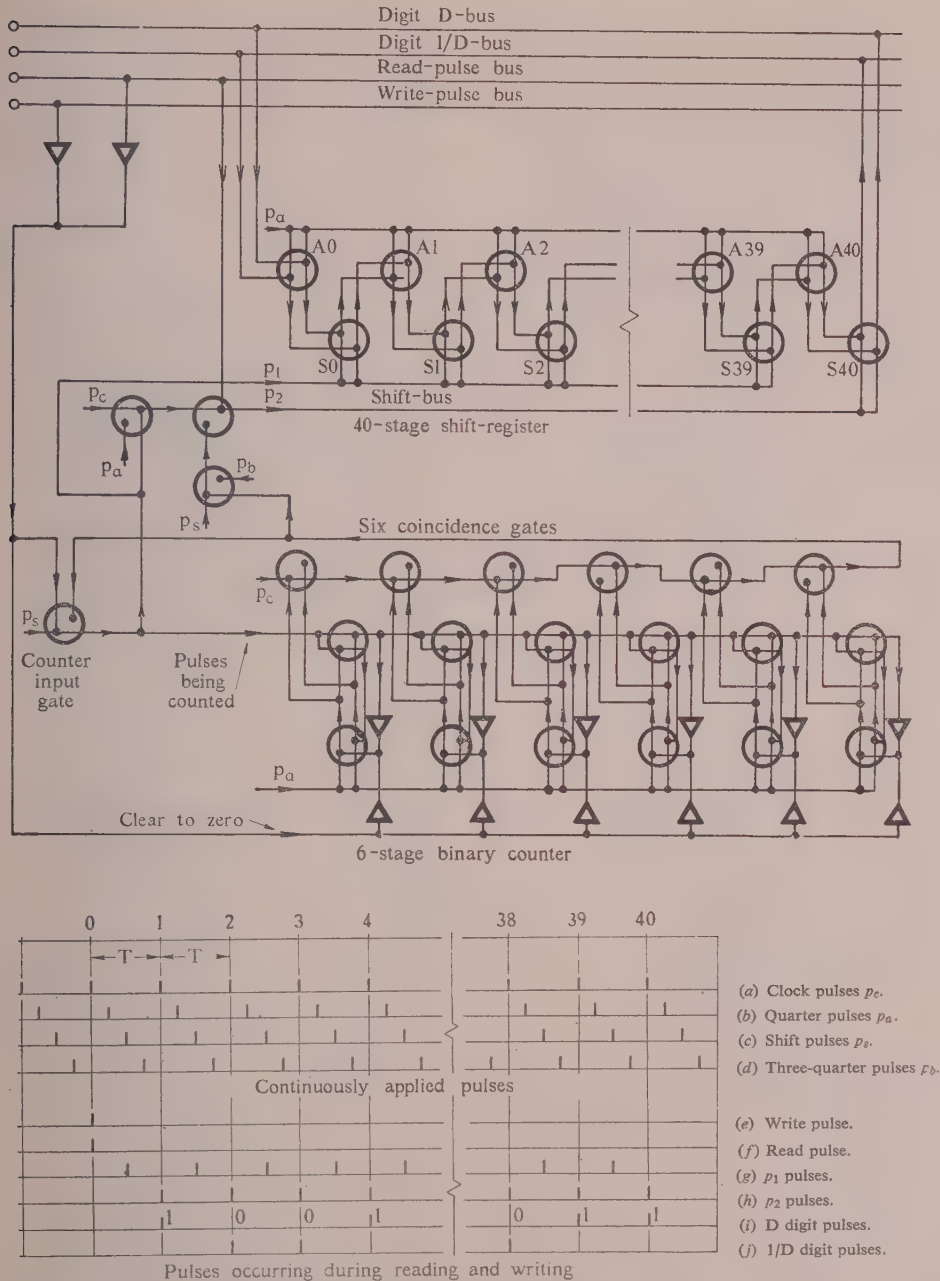


Fig. 2.—A 40-stage shift register and associated binary counter, assembled from binary-gating elements.

ilarly be used in the construction of binary adders, multipliers, decoders, ring counters, etc. There is no reason to suspect that the applications are limited to these cases—in fact, these examples confirm the building-block nature of the binary-gating element.

### (3) BINARY-GATING TUBE

#### (3.1) Electrical Principles

The bistable section of the binary-gating tube is based on the principle suggested by Sharpless<sup>6</sup> and used recently by Hollway<sup>4</sup> in counter tubes. As indicated in Fig. 3, the bistable section

consists of an electron gun, two pairs of deflector plates, and a pair of symmetrically located targets. Each target is connected to a load resistor and to the opposite deflector of the second pair. Such an arrangement may possess two electrical stable states, which are distinguished by the position of the electron beam. The beam may strike either target, and in doing so be held there by the deflection forces resulting from the feedback connections between targets and deflectors. The state of the device is indicated electrically by the target potentials, and it is from these targets that connections are made to the gate sections of the tube. The device may be set to a required state by momen-



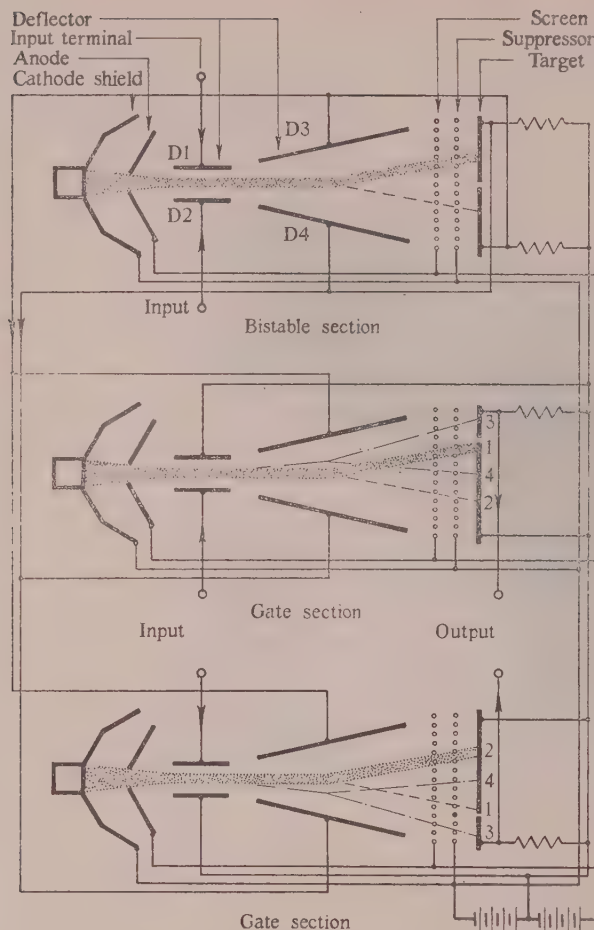


Fig. 3.—Electrode connections between sections of the binary-gating tube.

tarily applying a potential difference to the first pair of deflectors to overpower the deflection force of the second pair, thus forcing the beam into its new location.

The electrode arrangement of the gate sections of the tube differs from that of the bistable section in the positioning of the targets, which are offset from the central axis, and also in the omission of the connections between the targets and the second pair of deflectors. Connections are made between targets of the bistable section and the second pair of deflectors of the gate section, so that in the absence of a potential difference between the first pair of deflector plates of the gate section, their electron-beam location is similar to that of the beam in the bistable section. These locations are indicated in the diagram by target positions 1 and 2, respectively, target position 1 being associated with the "gate open" condition and target position 2 with the "gate closed" condition. Information appearing as a voltage pulse upon the input deflector of a gate section momentarily causes the beam to move either from target location 1 to 3 or from location 2 to 4 depending upon the state of the bistable section. In the former case, which corresponds to the gate-open condition, the beam strikes the output target, resulting in an output signal across the load resistor. In the latter case the beam deflection is insufficient to move the beam on to the output target, and no signal is produced at the output.

The binary-gating tube has been designed to operate with anode and screen grid connected to a 400-volt supply. Equally satisfactory performance is observed when this voltage lies in the range 300–500 volts. The deflectors and targets are preferably operated at about half the anode voltage, i.e. 200 volts. Target currents observed with the anode at 400 volts are approximately 0.2 mA. The pulses applied to the trigger deflectors of the bistable section and to the input deflectors of the gate sections are 25 volts in amplitude, although in a well-aligned tube this value may lie in the range 15–35 volts. From a consideration of the beam current and trigger-pulse amplitude together with the requirement that the output of one tube may be connected directly to the input of another, it follows that the target load resistance required is 125 kilohms. In the bistable section of the tube the relatively small external stray capacitance present at the targets enables the sensitivity of the deflection system which cross-connect to the targets to be made only half that of the trigger deflectors, without a loss of overall switching speed. The load resistances used in the bistable section are consequently 250 kilohms.

### (3.2) Construction

As indicated in Fig. 4, the binary-gating tube is similar in general appearance and form of construction to the more conventional tubes. The plane-shaped electrodes are mounted between mica discs to provide mechanical support and electrical insulation. Significant features of the tube are the electron gun, the deflection system and the target assembly.

In the electron gun three ribbon-like electron beams are formed, each originating from a separate portion of the common indirectly-heated cathode, and emanating from one of the apertures in the anode of the gun. Beam formation takes place in the region between the cathode shield and the anode, where electrons from the cathode are confined to a wedge-shaped region. Upon leaving the aperture the electrons move in a beam through the deflection system to a line focus at the targets.

Between the electron gun and the targets the path of the beam of electrons is controlled by two pairs of deflectors. The first pair of deflectors associated with each beam are electrically separate from one another and are mechanically supported on glass beads. The common connections required between the second pairs of deflectors enable the construction to be simplified by using two long flat plates to form a pair of deflectors common to all three beams. In addition to controlling the general direction of the electron paths, the deflection system is maintained at a lower potential than that of the anode and screen grid to assist in the focusing of the beam. This also provides suppression of the secondary electrons produced at both anode aperture and the screen grid.

The target assembly consists of several flat plates supported on glass beads. Secondary emission from the target surface is suppressed by a closely spaced suppressor grid placed between the screen grid and the targets and held at cathode potential. The screen grid, placed between the suppressor grid and the deflector system, maintains the electron velocities in this region and prevents the target potentials from influencing the electron paths.

The complete assembly is connected to a 12-pin button connector and enclosed in a cylindrical glass envelope to form a tube approximately 28 mm in diameter and 65 mm in length.

### (3.3) Electron Optical Design

The use of the Pierce-type electron gun, in cases where it can be applied, enables a first-order approximation of the electron geometry to be made by computational methods, thus confining trial-and-error experimental techniques to final adjustment.

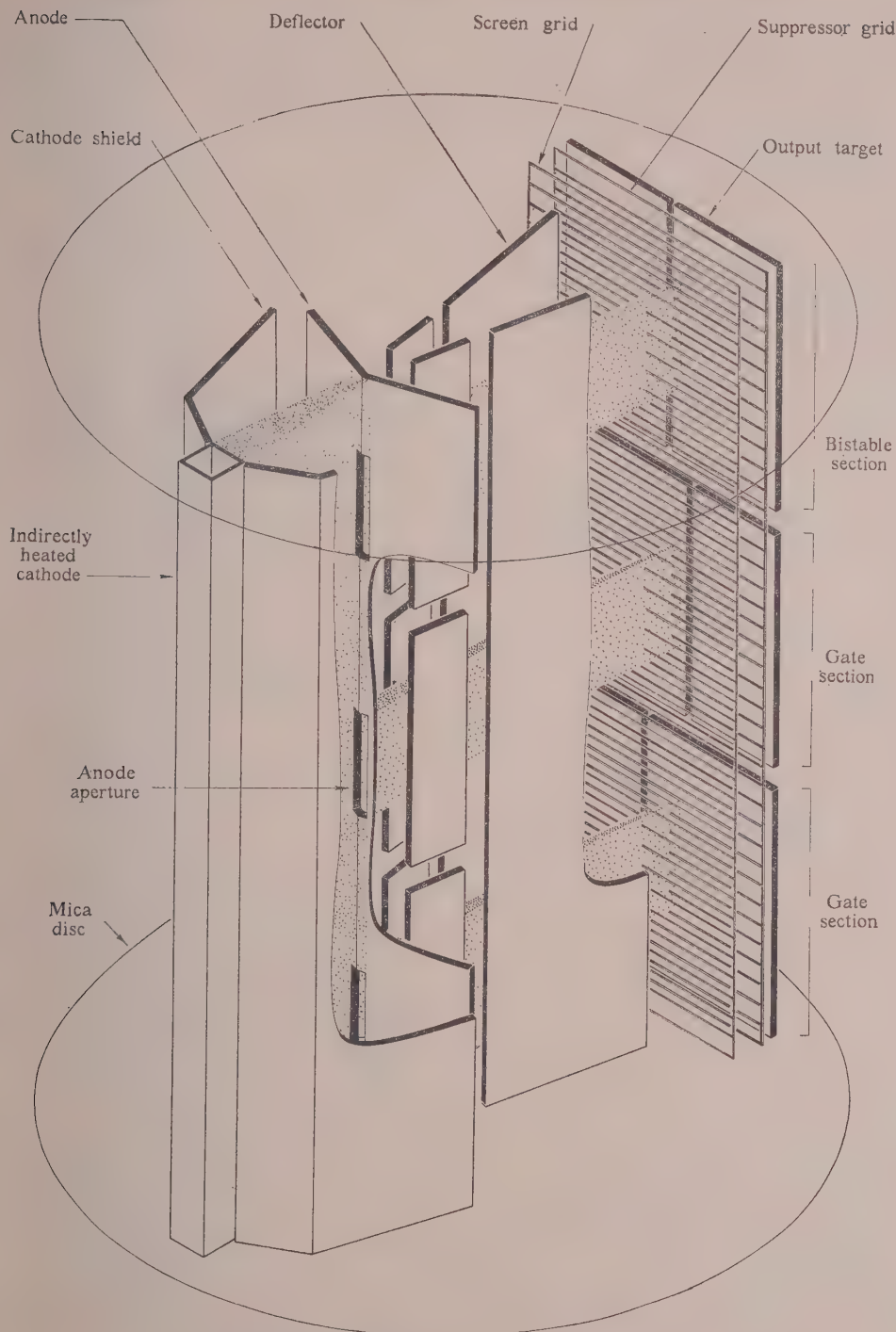


Fig. 4.—Electrode configuration of the binary-gating tube.

second-order effects. The choice of the Pierce gun depends on the predominance of space-charge over thermal-velocity in determining electron paths. In the binary-gating tube, conditions are intermediate between these two cases, space charge predominating within the gun and thermal velocities in the beam beyond the gun. The gun to be described is designed on the basis of space charge within both the gun and

the beam, due consideration being given to the lens action of the anode aperture. Finally the width of the focus under these conditions is estimated by considering the beam spreading due to thermal effects.

Considering space charge only, Pierce<sup>9</sup> computed the approximate shapes of the cathode shield and anode necessary to confine the electrons in the gun to a wedge-shaped region. These curved



electrodes are difficult to make with accuracy, so for use in the binary-gating tube the simplified shapes of Fig. 4 have been obtained. These have been computed using a conduction-sheet analogue device, the necessary shapes being obtained by trial to give a close approximation to the Langmuir<sup>10</sup> diode-distribution relation along the boundary between the space-charge and the space-charge-free regions of the gun.

This potential relation is given by

$$V = k_1(r\beta^2)^{2/3} \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

where  $V$  = Field potential at radius  $r$ .

$r$  = Radial position measured from the centre of curvature of the cathode.

$$\beta = u - 2u^2/5 + 11u^3/120 - 47u^4/3\,300 + \dots$$

$$u = 1n(r/r_c)$$

$r_c$  = Radius of curvature of the cathode.

$k_1$  = Constant.

Considering the lens action of the anode aperture, but neglecting both space-charge and thermal-velocity effects in the region beyond the anode, the electrons are directed to a cross-over point which is further removed from the anode than the "cathode-centre," as shown in Fig. 5. The focal length of the

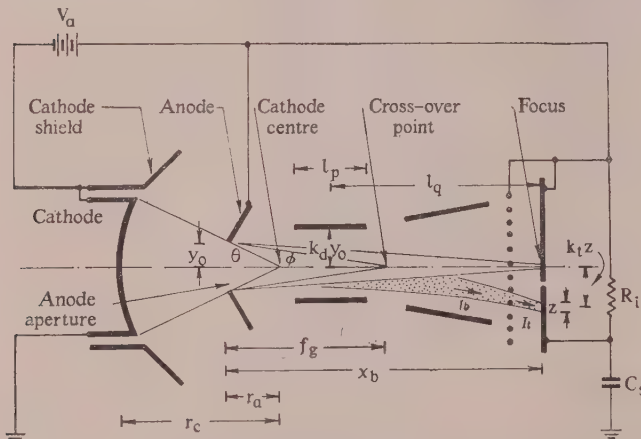


Fig. 5.—Symbols used in analysis.

divergent lens at the anode aperture is computed from the Davisson and Calbick<sup>11</sup> relation,

$$f_s = -2V_a/E_a \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

where  $f_s$  = Anode-aperture focal length.

$V_a$  = Field potential at the anode aperture.

$E_a$  = Change in gradient through the aperture.

For the present analysis  $E_a$  is given the value of the derivative of the Langmuir potential relation at  $r = r_a$ . From the lens formula the focal length of the gun,  $f_g$ , is given by

$$\frac{1}{f_g} = \frac{1}{f_s} + \frac{1}{r_a} \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

Thus electrons leaving the anode aperture move towards the cross-over point and not the cathode centre.

Disregarding the effects of thermal velocities in the beam between the anode and the output targets, the effect of space charge is shown by Thompson and Headrick<sup>12</sup> to cause the beam to spread, and the focus to recede to a position further

from the anode than the cross-over point. The binary-gating tube is designed for the limiting focusing condition, in which focus occurs in a distance of twice that of the cross-over point from the anode aperture, and the paths of the electrons at focus are tangential to the axis. The beam perveance for this case is given by

$$\frac{I_b}{l_c V_a^{3/2}} = \frac{41.8 \times 10^{-6} y_0}{x_b^2}$$

where,  $I_b$  = Total beam current.

$l_c$  = Length of cathode.

$y_0$  = Half the anode-aperture width.

$x_b$  = Beam length measured from the anode aperture.

The limiting focusing condition is obtained when the following two conditions are fulfilled:

(a) The gun perveance, as computed by the Langmuir cylindrical-diode current relation, is equal to the beam perveance required by the Thompson and Headrick beam space-charge spreading relation for the limiting focusing condition:

$$\frac{I_b}{l_c V_a^{3/2}} = \frac{14.66 \times 10^{-6} \theta}{r_a \beta^2 \pi} = \frac{41.8 \times 10^{-6} r_a \theta}{x_b^2}$$

where

$$\theta = y_0/r_a$$

Therefore

$$r_a^2 \beta^2 = 0.111 x_b^2 \quad \dots$$

(b) The paths of electrons leaving the anode aperture directed towards a cross-over point located midway between the anode aperture and the required focus point:

$$f_g = x_b/2 \quad \dots$$

By trial solution of eqns. (5) and (6), the necessary proportions are

$$r_c = 0.59 x_b \quad \dots$$

$$r_a = 0.21 x_b \quad \dots$$

In practice, it is found that the focus may be improved, and current picked up by the deflectors reduced, if a limiting aperture is included whose width is one-third of the anode aperture, which is placed at a distance of three times the anode-aperture width from the anode. For clarity this aperture is not shown in Fig. 4. However, its effect must be taken into account when computing the beam current, which in this case is reduced one-third of its original value. In the binary-gating tube described

$$x_b = 13 \text{ mm}$$

From eqns. (7a) and (7b)

$$r_c = 7.7 \text{ mm}$$

$$r_a = 2.7 \text{ mm}$$

Allowing for the effect of the limiting aperture

$$y_0 = 0.075 \text{ mm}$$

$$l_c = 4 \text{ mm}$$

$$V_a = 400 \text{ volts.}$$

Therefore, from eqn. (4),

$$I_b = 0.59 \text{ mA.}$$

By experiment the screen grid was found to reduce the current at the target to 0.20 mA.

The important assumption in the space-charge-spreading theory is that the electron beam at the anode aperture is homogeneous and homocentric; these being conditions p

the Pierce-type electron gun when thermal velocities are regarded. Langmuir<sup>13</sup> and Pierce<sup>14</sup> have shown that the effect of thermal velocities is to limit the current densities which can be obtained in electron beams, and to destroy the fine-line structure which would otherwise be possible in ribbon-like beams in an aberrationless electron optical system.

In the absence of space charge in the beam the focus occurs at the cross-over point, as shown in Fig. 5. The equation for the effects of thermal velocities in ribbon beams shows that the limiting current density which can be obtained at the focus is given approximately by

$$J_{\max} = J_0 \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} (eV/kT)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin \phi \quad (8)$$

where,  $J_0$  = Cathode current density.

$V$  = Beam potential.

$\phi$  = Beam convergence angle at the cross-over point for electrons leaving the anode with zero velocity.

The ratio of the beam width at the cross-over point to that at the cathode is given by  $J_{\max}/J_0$ . When  $V = 400$  volts and the width of the cathode is 0.054 in, the beam width at the cross-over point is 0.024 in, as compared with 0.018 in at the anode aperture. Assuming the beam to continue spreading at the same rate, the expected focus width at the target would be 0.010 in. The formula shows that the use of a limiting aperture cannot be expected to reduce the spreading due to thermal velocities to any appreciable extent. It can be expected to accept and remove the electrons of high thermal energy and to reduce the stray current entering the deflector electrodes.

The equation for the effect of thermal velocities shows that the maximum current density which can be obtained in a beam increases as the angle of convergence of the electron paths is increased. Thus the beam focus can be improved by using a focusing lens. In the binary-gating tube, such a focusing effect is obtained by operating the deflection system at a lower potential than the anode and the screen grid, the latter two electrodes being electrically connected. The operation of the deflection system in this manner does not prevent the output of one tube being connected directly to the input of another, since the presence of the screen grid enables the output targets of the tubes to be connected through their appropriate load resistors to the same supply as the deflectors. In fact, with the tube described the best operating conditions were found when the deflection system and deflectors were operated at about half the potential of the anode and screen, as indicated in Fig. 3. The focusing effect of this lens may be computed by using one or other of the various numerical methods, such as are given by Klemperer<sup>15</sup>, Wright<sup>15</sup> or Gans,<sup>16</sup> based upon the differential equation of motion of the paraxial electrons. Alternately, as has been done in the design of this tube, the potential of the deflection system necessary to give the best line focus may be obtained by experiment. It was found that the line-focus width could be increased from 0.030 in to 0.010 in by lowering the deflector potentials to one-half that of the anode.

Secondary electrons produced at the target are suppressed in the binary-gating tube by means of a suppressor grid placed between the screen grid and the targets. The method used for determining the dimensions of these grids is similar to that used in the design of pentodes, and presented in a convenient form by Spangenberg.<sup>17</sup>

Pierce<sup>18</sup> had given an expression for the limiting transconductance of beam-deflection amplifier tubes in terms of thermal velocities and the capacitance between the deflector electrodes by combining the expression for the maximum current

density with that for the deflection sensitivity. For use in the design of the binary-gating tube, an expression is derived for the time-constant associated with the change of potential of a target when the beam is suddenly switched on to it, in terms of the width of the focus at the target, the beam deflection, the total stray capacitance, the anode potential, and the ratio of the deflector-plate separation to the beam width at the anode. The thermal velocities are not considered directly in this derivation, because space-charge and focusing effects in the deflection system cannot be neglected in this case. However, their effect is implied in the term for the beam width at the focus. The variation of the capacitance between the deflector plates as a function of their separation is not taken into account, since their capacitance is comparable with that of the stray capacitance to earth of the wiring when the tube is used in computer circuits.

In the circuit shown in Fig. 5, the following symbols are used:

$2y_0$  = Beam width at limiting aperture.

$2y_0 k_d$  = Separation of the deflector plates.

$l_c$  = Length of the cathode (beam thickness).

$x_b$  = Length of the beam.

$z$  = Beam width at target.

$V_a$  = Anode potential.

$I_b$  = Beam current.

$I_t$  = Current entering the target.

$R_l$  = Load resistance.

$C_s$  = Stray capacitance at the target.

$V_t$  = Input, or output, signal (the signals are of equal amplitude to enable direct connection to be made between tubes).

The target response to an input signal which causes the beam to be suddenly switched on to it is given by

$$v_0 = I_t R_l [1 - \exp(-t/T)] \quad (9)$$

$$\text{where } T = C_s R_l = C_s V_t / I_t \quad (9a)$$

In the deflection system

$$V_t = 4V_a \frac{k_d y_0}{l_p} \frac{k_i z}{l_q} \quad (10)$$

where,  $l_p$  = Length of the deflector plates.  
 $l_q$  = Distance from the centre of the deflector plates to the target.

From eqn. (4),

$$I_t = k_s I_b = 41.8 \times 10^{-6} V_a^{3/2} \frac{k_s y_0 l_c}{x_b^2} \quad (11)$$

where  $k_s$  = Fraction of the beam current passing through the screen grid and striking the target.

By substitution in eqn. (9a),

$$T = 9.6 \times 10^4 \frac{1}{V_a^{3/2}} \frac{k_d}{k_s} \frac{k_i x_b^2}{l_p l_q l_c} C_s \quad (12)$$

In the binary-gating tube described

$C_s = 15 \mu\mu\text{F}$  (approx.)

$l_p = 2.25 \text{ mm}$

$l_q = 10.5 \text{ mm}$

$k_d = 6.3$

$k_i z = 1.0 \text{ mm}$

$k_s = 0.34$

$l_c = 4.0 \text{ mm}$

$V_a = 400 \text{ volts}$

$x_b = 13 \text{ mm}$



Substituting these values in eqn. (12),  $T = 2.4$  microsec. This agrees with the time-constants associated with the waveforms in Fig. 6 and with the observed maximum speed of operation of 150 000 changes of state per second.

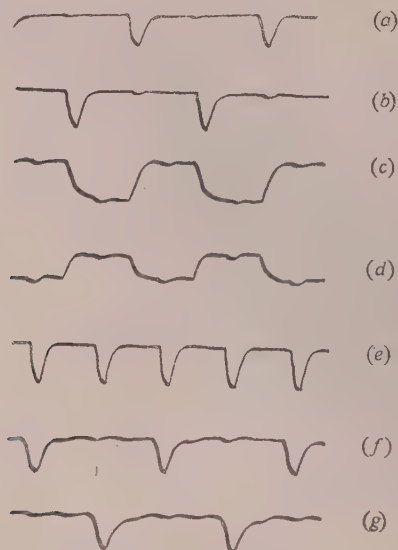


Fig. 6.—Oscillograms showing the performance of the binary-gating tube at a frequency of 50 000 pulses/sec.

- (a) Pulses applied to trigger deflector D1.
- (b) Pulses applied to trigger deflector D2.
- (c) Waveform at bistable deflector D3.
- (d) Waveform at bistable deflector D4.
- (e) Input pulses applied to gates "a" and "b."
- (f) Output pulses from gate "b."
- (g) Output pulses from gate "a."

#### (4) CONCLUSION

Approaching the design of digital systems from the viewpoint of basic functions has led to the establishment of three basic elements and the practical realization of two of them in the form of a beam-deflection vacuum tube. Experience may show that the binary-gating tube does not represent the best possible compromise between complexity of the tube and that of the overall system. A simpler element which can perform either bistable or gate functions by a simple change of external connections may lead to a more economical overall arrangement. Whatever tube is finally chosen for the purpose, it does appear that its use would simplify the design, construction and maintenance of digital machinery by reducing the number and variety of its components.

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# BEAM-DEFLECTION VALVE FOR USE IN DIGITAL COMPUTING CIRCUITS

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## SUMMARY

Different methods used in the logical design of computing circuits are summarized, and from these, desirable properties are suggested for a universal computing element.

A description is given of a ribbon-beam-deflection valve based on the suggestions. Methods of application are illustrated with waveforms and oscillograms using a single valve alternatively for binary addition, binary subtraction, or control of an output gate by various vibrator circuits.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

It has been appreciated for some time that the conventional vacuum-tube valve is not ideal for switching circuits, since simple operations often require several valves. Consequently digital computers use large numbers of valves and components, which seriously affect their reliability. Various proposals have been made for universal switching elements in an attempt to reduce the total amount of equipment and the variety of circuits. A ground to the idea of universal elements is provided by the use of symbols and methods used in logical design. These will be briefly reviewed.

A system based on the analogy to the nervous system was proposed by von Neumann<sup>2</sup> and others from the work of Pitts and McCulloch, who proposed a description of the nervous system based upon "two indication elements." These elements, which they called neurons, have the following properties: each neuron has an output line and a number of input lines. The input lines carry stimuli to excite or inhibit a signal on the output line (the response being immediate). All the signals are binary, i.e. of the on-off type and not continuous. An "all-or-none" output response changes when the number of simultaneous inputs exceeds a certain number, called the threshold of the neuron. Some of the symbols used and their characteristics are shown in Fig. 1. The number in the circle is the threshold of the neuron; an inhibit stimulus overrides all excitation stimuli.

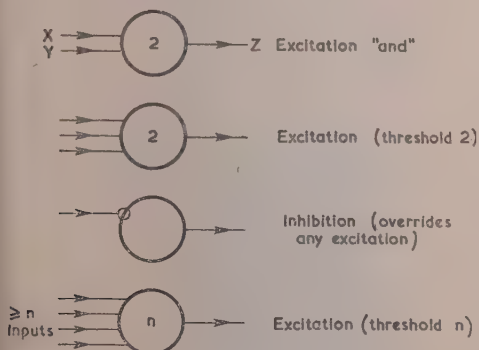


Fig. 1.—Neuron symbols.

Different connections of these elements can be written, using the rules of Boolean algebra. A difficulty arises in practice from the fact that there is very little correspondence between these symbols and the appropriate vacuum-tube circuits. Several modified schemes have been proposed to overcome this difficulty.

One method<sup>4</sup> uses special symbols rather than neurons to represent the valve circuits, and associated with each symbol is an algebraic operator; also included are Tables which list the different switching combinations of up to four variables in terms of these operators. (The switching combinations represent all the possible arrangements for four bi-valued inputs and a single bi-valued output). The operator expressions can be converted to symbolic form from which detailed circuits can be drawn. These Tables show that considerably more vacuum tubes are required than neurons for a given switching function. A number of other similar schemes have also been developed.

There appear to be two alternative solutions to simplify circuits. The first is to use only a single basic element, different combinations of this being used to derive the other elements. Several devices have been proposed on this basis. Speedy<sup>3</sup> has described a special valve and circuit which combines the properties of a trigger circuit and two electronic gates, and has illustrated how this may be used as a building block.

Another proposal<sup>1</sup> is the universal decision elements shown in Fig. 2. The switching Table is written as a form of matrix.

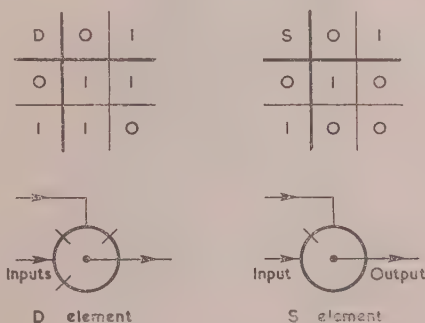


Fig. 2.—Decision elements.

The two input signals, each having possible values of 0 or 1, form the upper and left-hand side, and the output from the element, which can likewise be 0 or 1, is given by the intersection. In the symbol which is used to represent this matrix, a short line through the circumference indicates that the output is a 1 in the corresponding quadrant of the matrix. The universal elements are the D and S elements. One reason for the choice of these simple elements with two inputs and one output is that they are easier to analyse. More complex elements having more than two inputs and more than one output, although unwieldy in logical systems, may be useful in practice.



The following are suggested as desirable properties in a device to be used in a somewhat similar way to neurons:

- (a) Four inputs, two of each polarity, to be used as excitation and inhibit connections. These inputs should preferably be of equal sensitivity, and such that direct links can be made between elements.
- (b) Output terminals to give positive or negative signals.
- (c) Complete isolation between inputs, and between inputs and outputs, so that they do not interact with each other.
- (d) A power gain sufficient to drive as many as three other elements in parallel.

The present paper describes a ribbon-beam-deflection valve consisting of two interconnected elements, each having the above properties. The reason for this particular choice is that it enables binary addition, subtraction and other operations of interest to be carried out in a single valve which is limited to a 12-pin base. The application of the valve is illustrated with circuits and oscillograms.

It is interesting to observe that a still more useful element would be one whose proportions were capable of simple dynamic control. An example of such an element would be one which could be changed from addition to subtraction on application of a control signal derived from the previous operation, or from an external source. Similar elements are useful in logical systems, and would be equally useful in automatic computing. At present they seem difficult to realize practically.

## (2) DESCRIPTION OF VALVE

Fig. 3 shows the essential features of one of the valves used. The valve is approximately  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in long and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in in diameter. It

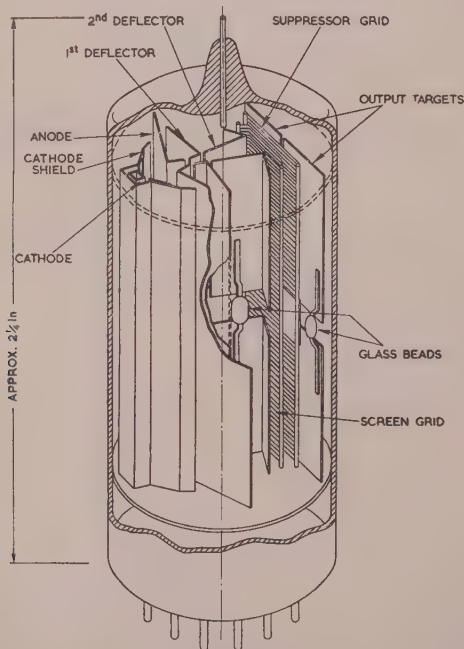


Fig. 3.—Valve details.

consists of a simple electron gun producing a ribbon-type beam which is directed axially outwards but deflected by sets of deflectors through screen and suppressor grids on to collecting targets. The direct voltage of the deflectors is half that of the anode producing a focusing field and assisting the repulsion of

secondary electrons from the anode. The second deflectors are divided so that they can act independently on their respective sections of the beam. The beam is divided into sections by reaching the targets by a strip across the suppressor grid. Recent investigations have shown that considerable improvements would result from a back-to-back arrangement of sections using two sides of a common cathode. This would be a preferred arrangement for future work.

The essential elements of each section for design purposes are the arrangements of targets and deflectors. Each section has a divided target and two pairs of deflectors (the first pair of deflectors being common to both sections). The bottom section of targets is divided centrally, and for the top pair the division is offset, so that with all the deflectors at the same potential, the beam divides centrally between the targets in the bottom section and lies wholly on one target in the top section. The sensitivity of all the deflectors is the same, and their d.c. level is the same as that of the targets, so that direct links can be made between targets and deflectors. These properties simplify circuit arrangements.

The input signals applied to the deflectors are normal negative voltage pulses. The output signal is then taken as a corresponding negative voltage pulse from a load resistor attached to the target on which the beam impinges. In some cases positive voltage pulses are used, and these cases are distinguished by a primed letter. A corresponding positive output pulse occurs in a load resistor attached to the target from which the beam shifts on application of the input. A unit input pulse is considered as one which when applied to a deflector will shift the beam at the target a distance somewhat greater than beam width.

Using the notation of Fig. 4 for the various deflectors and targets, it may be seen that the following equations relate output target currents to the deflector-voltage inputs.

For the bottom section of the valve

$$i_{B1} = i, \text{ and } i_{B2} = 0$$

when

$$D_2 - D_1 + D_{4B} - D_{3B} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

and for the top section  $i_{T1} = i, \text{ and } i_{T2} = 0$

when

$$D_2 - D_1 + D_{4T} - D_{3T} \geq 1$$

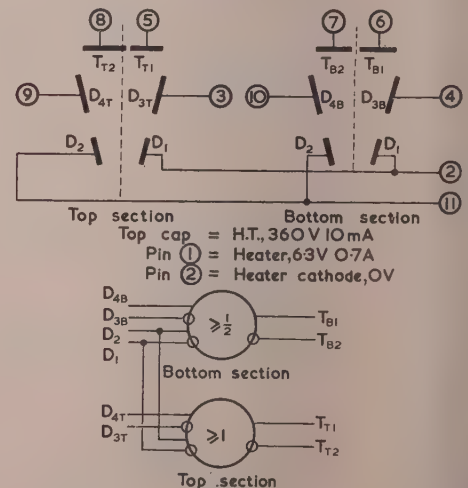


Fig. 4.—Base connections and symbol.

the relations may be summarized in the symbols of Fig. 4. Connections to deflectors which produce deflection of the beam in the direction are shown plain, while connections to deflectors which produce deflection in the opposite direction are indicated by a small circle surrounding the connection. Plain and circled connections to the targets are used to distinguish those parts on which the electron beam is directed by negative pulses applied to similarly marked deflectors.

The numbers in the circle correspond to those in eqns. (1) and (2) and specify the conditions for current in the targets. The number is determined by the target offset, but it may be altered by a constant voltage difference on any deflector pair; by applying an appropriate bias to  $D_{3B}$  the number  $\geq \frac{1}{2}$  can be altered to  $\geq 0, \geq 1, \geq 2$ , etc.

### (3) CIRCUIT APPLICATIONS

#### (3.1) Binary Addition

Forming the sum of two numbers, each step consists of the addition of the addend and augend, together with the carry digit from the previous step.

- $n$  = Base of the number system.
- $x$  and  $y$  = Addend and augend digits.
- $C_{in}$  = Carry digit from the previous step.
- $S$  = Sum-digit output.
- $C_{out}$  = Carry-digit output.

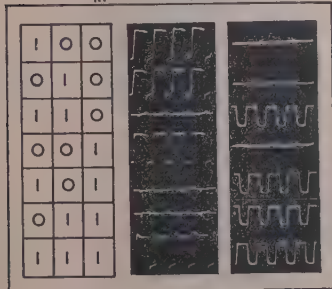
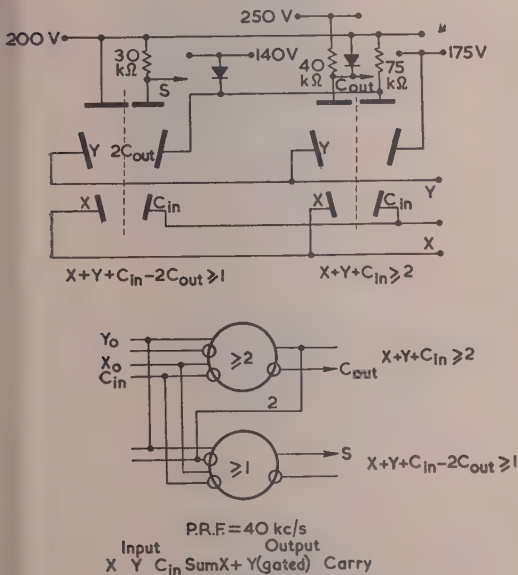


Fig. 5.—Binary addition.

then the rules for the output sum and carry digits may be stated as follows:

$$C_{out} \text{ occurs when } x + y + C_{in} \geq n \quad (3)$$

and  $S$  occurs when

$$x + y + C_{in} - nC_{out} \geq 1 = S \quad (4)$$

In the binary system,  $n = 2$ , and we have

$$C_{out} = 1, \text{ when } x + y + C_{in} \geq 2$$

$$\text{and } S = 1, \text{ when } x + y + C_{in} - 2C_{out} = 1$$

These relations are similar to those given earlier relating target currents and deflector voltages. Fig. 5 shows these relations in symbolic form, and also the detailed circuit. The  $\geq 2$  relation for the carry digit is obtained by a lower d.c. level on  $D_{3B}$ . In the circuit shown

$x$  and  $y$  are supplied as negative voltage pulses of unit amplitude.  $C_{in}$  is a positive voltage pulse of unit amplitude.

$2C_{out}$  is obtained by using a load resistance sufficient to produce a voltage pulse of at least 2 units, clipped by a diode to reduce it accurately to 2 units.

$C_{out}$  is a positive voltage pulse output.

It is apparent that spurious results can occur during the rise and fall of the various inputs. This does not necessarily cause complications in practice, since the results are always read into a storage register whose input gates may be closed during the transient period. In obtaining the waveforms shown the sum digits have been gated in this way. No spurious results can occur with the carry digits.

In the case of parallel addition, it is necessary only to connect the  $C'_{out}$  digit of one stage to the  $C'_{in}$  of the next.

Fig. 6 shows a two-digit parallel adder, and the waveforms illustrate some of the more interesting combinations involving a carry between stages.

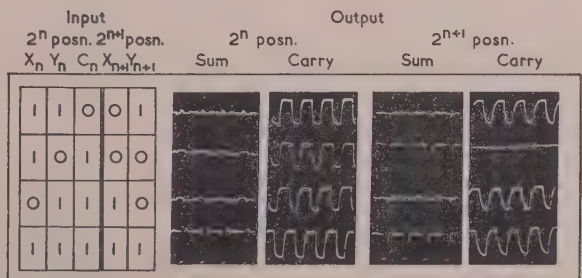
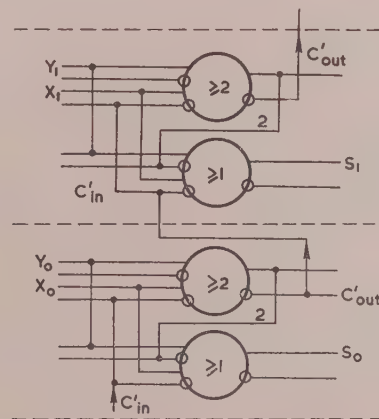


Fig. 6.—Parallel binary addition.



For a complete serial adder the  $C'_{out}$  digits must be delayed one digit period to provide the  $C_{in}$  digit for the following step. Fig. 7 shows a circuit which was operated at 120 kc/s with 5 microsec pulses. An amplifying valve is included in the  $2C_{out}$  link to reduce transients, and a second valve feeds an 8-microsec delay line for the carry digits which are shaped by diodes to provide  $C'_{in}$ .

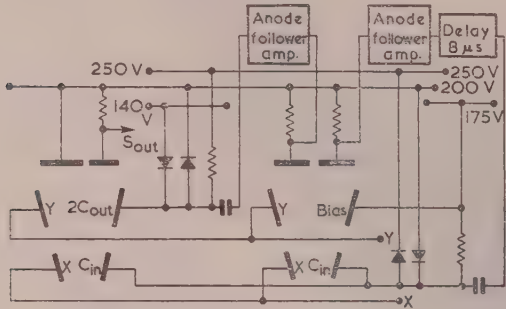


Fig. 7.—Serial binary addition.

### (3.2) Binary Subtraction

Each step in the subtraction of the two numbers consists of subtraction from the minuend of the digits of the subtrahend, together with the borrow from the previous step, proceeding always from the least significant digit. The rules for binary arithmetic are as follows:

$$\text{Borrow } B_{out} = 1 \text{ when} \\ x - y - B_{in} \leq 1 \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Difference } D = 1 \text{ when} \\ x - y - B_{in} + 2B_{out} = 1 \quad (6)$$

Fig. 8 shows the symbolic form and the detailed circuit. The  $\leq -1$  relation is achieved by a bias on  $D_{4B}$ .

$x$ ,  $y$ , and  $B_{in}$  are supplied as negative voltage pulses of unit amplitude.

$2B_{out}$  is obtained using resistances and a clipping diode.

$B_{out}$  is taken from a dividing resistance.

As before, transient errors can occur during the rise and fall of the pulses, and these have been gated out.

Parallel and serial subtraction circuits can be made in a similar way to the corresponding addition circuits.

It is apparent that this method of circuit design may be applied to other switching circuits. The procedure is to examine the switching Table for relations between the input and output, of the following type:

$$D_1 - D_2 + D_{3B} - D_{4B} \geq \text{or} \leq n, \\ D_1 - D_2 + D_{3T} - D_{4T} \geq \text{or} \leq n_2$$

The requirements for binary addition and subtraction have resulted in the following design limits for the valve:

$$3 \geq n \geq -3 \\ 2 \geq D_1 - D_2 \geq -2$$

The relations should be checked to see that these limits are not exceeded.

The circuits which follow involve the control of a gate by a second element, and use the same valve as for binary addition and subtraction. They have been selected as the ones of most interest in digital computing.

### (3.3) Bistable Storage

The application of the binary gating valve as a building block for switching circuits has been described by Speedy.<sup>3</sup> The section valve may be used similarly, except that only one gate is available. The circuit for a bistable section and coupled

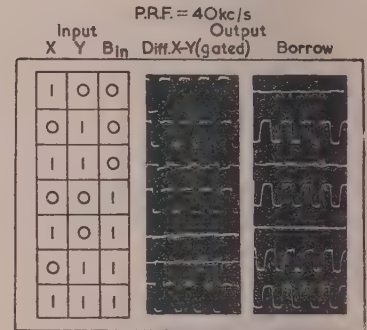
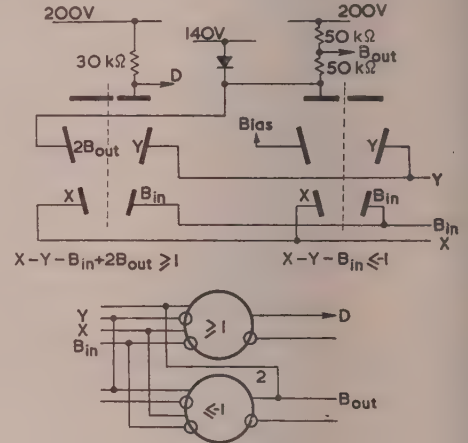


Fig. 8.—Binary subtraction.

is shown in Fig. 9. The symmetrically located targets are connected to the common pair of deflectors, and to the supply voltage through load resistors. This results in two stable states which may be switched by pulses on the second pair of deflectors.

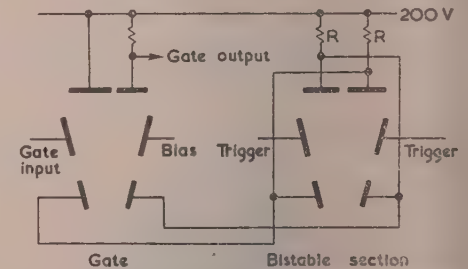


Fig. 9.—Bistable storage with an output gate.

The remaining section is then used as a gate coupled to a common pair of deflectors. The gate target is offset mechanically, and a bias is applied to  $D_{3B}$ , so that in one state the beam lies just off the target, and in the other it lies on one and two beam widths from the target. A unit pulse gate shifts the beam towards the gate target, so that the beam can strike the output target in one state and not in the other.

Fig. 10 shows a modification of this circuit to provide an input as well as an output gate. This circuit would be of use in digital registers in a parallel machine.

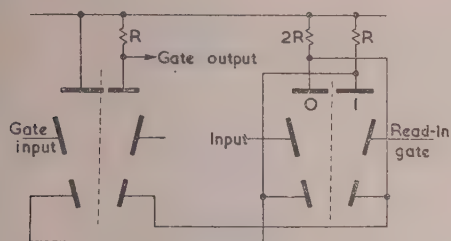


Fig. 10.—Register storage.

The load resistances for the symmetrical targets have been chosen as  $2R$  and  $R$ , so that the second stable position is shifted further off centre. The state can only be changed by the coincidence of a digit pulse on  $D_{4B}$  and a positive pulse on  $D_{3B}$ . The read-out gate operates as before.

### (3.4) Binary Counter

The action of the deflectors in a beam valve is in many respects equivalent to that of a grid in a triode. Thus circuits can be derived directly from equivalent grid-valve circuits. This has been done in the circuit shown in Fig. 11.

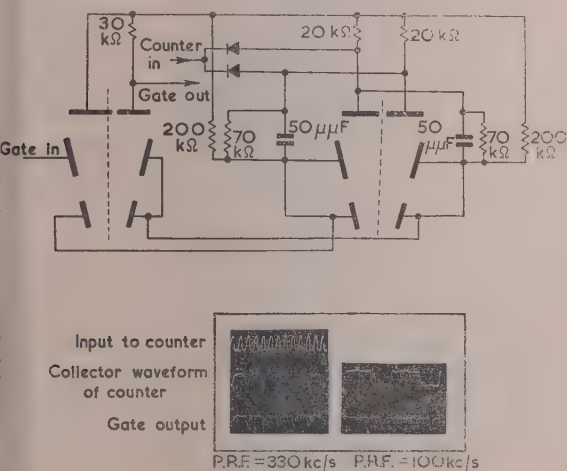


Fig. 11.—Binary counter with gate.

The direct link between target and deflectors is replaced by a resistance-capacitance network, and negative input pulses fed through diodes. The load resistances and the resistances of the step-down network are chosen so that there are two stable states for the beam. A sharp negative pulse applied to the input causes the target at the high potential (no beam current) to follow the input, but transmits nothing to the other low-

potential target. Because of the cross-coupling capacitor, the fraction of this which appears at the deflectors exceeds the steady-state value required for bistable action (which is determined by the resistances alone), and is sufficient to change the state. The following pulse switches the beam back, and so on.

In grid-tube circuits the switching speed is reduced by the loss in the step-down networks necessary because of the difference in d.c. level between the grids and anodes. In the beam valve the d.c. levels are the same, and the network loss can be minimized. This is the reason why beam valves with a much lower equivalent mutual conductance (in terms of milliamperes per volt on deflector or grid) perform comparably in such circuits. The waveforms of Fig. 11 illustrate the operation of the counter and coupled gate. Input pulses of about 2 microsec in width are applied to the counter, and identical pulses occurring midway between them are applied to the gate. Operation is shown at 100 kc/s and 330 kc/s, the latter being the limiting frequency.

### (3.5) Multivibrators

It is apparent that, with the diodes separated, the circuit of Fig. 11 acts as a bistable multivibrator.

The bistable multivibrator can be converted to a monostable or astable multivibrator in exactly the same way as in grid-valve circuits. A monostable multivibrator is obtained by eliminating one resistor coupling a target to a deflector, but leaving in the capacitor. The beam can then remain in one stable state as before, but can only remain in the other state for a time dependent on the time for the discharge of the cross-coupling capacitor. One of the diodes can be omitted. Similarly, by eliminating both cross-coupling resistors, the circuit becomes equivalent to a free-running or a stable multivibrator. The remaining section of the valve can then be used as a coupled gate.

### (4) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to acknowledge the contributions of Professor D. M. Myers of the Electrical Engineering Department, University of Sydney, under whose guidance the investigation was undertaken; Dr. C. B. Speedy, formerly of the Electrical Engineering Department, University of Sydney, whose development of "binary gating valve" led to this investigation; and Mr. L. G. Bellamy and members of the C.S.I.R.O. Vacuum Laboratory for construction of the experimental valves. The work described is part of the research programme of the Mathematical Instruments Section of C.S.I.R.O.

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# VIBRATORY POWER CONVERTORS: AN ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN

By R. H. EVANS, B.Sc., Graduate.

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## SUMMARY

The modes of operation of the various circuits employed in vibratory convertors are briefly described and a more detailed analysis is then made. Formulae are derived for use in design and in most instances these are presented graphically.

The paper includes calculation of the transformer flux density, the buffer capacitance, and the no-load (constant) losses, together with load characteristics for a.c. outputs with resistive or inductive load, and d.c. outputs employing full-wave, half-wave or voltage-doubling rectifying circuits. The ripple voltage across d.c. outputs is calculated and its harmonic content analysed. Formulae for input current, current in the transformer windings, and copper loss are also included, and are utilized to compare the power ratings for a given size of transformer operating in any of the various circuits.

The paper deals mainly with conventional circuits for low or medium power, up to about 50 watts; however, one section analyses some special circuits for d.c. outputs of high power in which the current pulses in the transformer are so shaped that the vibrator contacts open at virtually no load.

## LIST OF PRINCIPAL SYMBOLS

- $A_i$  = Net cross-sectional iron area of core,  $\text{cm}^2$ .  
 $A_k$  = Net cross-sectional copper area of winding,  $\text{cm}^2$ .  
 $\hat{B}$  = Peak flux density in core, gauss.  
 $B_c$  = Instantaneous flux density at end of a closed interval of the contacts, gauss.  
 $B_m$  = Average flux density during an open interval of the contacts, gauss.  
 $C$  = Reservoir capacitance, farads.  
 $C_b$  = Buffer capacitance, farads.  
 $C_s$  = Smoothing capacitance, farads.  
 $f$  = Frequency of vibrator reed, c/s.  
 $g$  = R.M.S. current factor for inductive a.c. load. (This is the factor by which  $V/2\pi fL_T$  is multiplied to obtain the load current  $I_{2R}$ .)  
 $H_m$  = Magnetizing force corresponding to  $B_m$ , ampere-turns/cm.  
 $I_1$  = Mean battery current (load component only), amperes.  
 $I_2$  = Mean output current, amperes.  
 $I_{2R}$  = R.M.S. output current from transformer, amperes.  
 $I_m$  = Magnetizing current corresponding to  $B_m$ , amperes.  
 $I_n$  = Mean battery current at no load, amperes.  
 $I_{w1}$  = R.M.S. current in primary winding, amperes.  
 $I_{w2}$  = R.M.S. current in secondary winding, amperes.  
 $i_c$  = Instantaneous current at end of closed interval of contacts, amperes.  
 $i_o$  = Instantaneous current at end of open interval of contacts, amperes.  
 $J$  = Current density in transformer windings,  $\text{amp}/\text{cm}^2$ .  
 $k_1$  = Closure-time ratio of an interrupter contact, defined as the fraction of a complete cycle during which the contact is closed.

- $k_2$  = Closure-time ratio of a rectifying contact.  
 $L$  = Transformer leakage inductance, henrys, referred to secondary winding. (For d.c. outputs it is the series inductance up to the reservoir capacitor, comprises the leakage inductance together with series inductance added to achieve contact unloading.)  
 $L_2$  = Inductance of load, henrys.  
 $L_n$  = Inductance of transformer primary winding at no load, henrys.  
 $L_s$  = Inductance of smoothing choke, henrys.  
 $L_T = L + L_2$ .  
 $l$  = Mean length of magnetic path in transformer core, cm.  
 $l_g$  = Effective length of air-gap in magnetic path, cm.  
 $M$  = Weight of iron in core, g.  
 $N$  = Number of turns in half primary winding, or in whole primary if not centre tapped.  
 $n$  = Transformer turns ratio. [This is the ratio (secondary turns)/ $N$ , or (turns in half secondary)/ $N$  if the secondary winding is centre-tapped.]  
 $P_1$  = Input power to supply load and copper loss, watts.  
 $P_b$  = Power loss due to over-buffering, watts.  
 $P_k$  = Copper loss in transformer and circuit, watts.  
 $q$  = Order of harmonic (e.g. for second harmonic,  $q = 2$ ).  
 $R$  = Circuit resistance referred to the secondary winding, ohms.  
 $R_1$  = Resistance of primary circuit, ohms.  
 $R_2$  = Load resistance, ohms.  
 $R_e$  = Effective resistance of convertor viewed from output terminals, ohms.  
 $R_n$  = Resistance representing the iron losses in the equivalent circuit of the transformer, ohms.  
 $R_s$  = Resistance of the winding of the smoothing choke, ohms.  
 $R_T = R + R_2$ .  
 $r$  = Ripple factor. The ripple factor for any ripple harmonic is the factor by which  $\hat{V}_r$  is multiplied to obtain the r.m.s. value of the harmonic.  
 $s$  = Resistance multiplying factor (see Section 5.1).  
 $t_c$  = Time of one closed interval of the contacts = seconds.  
 $t_o$  = Time of one open interval of the contacts, seconds.  
 $V$  = Peak induced secondary e.m.f. at no load =  $nV_1$ , volts.  
 $V_1$  = Battery voltage.  
 $V_2$  = Mean rectified output voltage.  
 $V_{2R}$  = R.M.S. output voltage.  
 $\hat{V}_r$  = Peak-to-peak ripple voltage.  
 $v_c$  = Instantaneous voltage across the reservoir capacitor at the end of a charging interval.  
 $v_o$  = Instantaneous voltage across the reservoir capacitor at the end of a discharging interval.  
 $\delta$  = Density of iron,  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ .  
 $\lambda$  = Coefficient expressing the relative permissible power ratings of transformers.  
 $\hat{\Phi}$  = Peak flux, corresponding to  $\hat{B}$ , maxwells.  
 $\Phi_c$  = Flux corresponding to  $B_c$ , maxwells.

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.  
 Mr. Evans is at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

## (1.1) General

The vibratory converter is one means of converting power in form of direct current such as the 24-volt d.c. supply of an aircraft, to power in the form of alternating current, or direct current at a different voltage. The Joint Service "Guide on Vibrators"<sup>1</sup> describes the general principles and gives practical details concerning the choice of circuit and the selection or design of individual components, including the vibrator and the transformer. Various other general accounts<sup>2,3</sup> have been published, while Mitchell<sup>4</sup> has surveyed recent trends in development and Allen<sup>5</sup> has investigated the special problem of contact erosion in vibrators.

The present paper provides a more detailed analysis of the various circuits and of the transformer operating conditions, and includes the derivation of design formulae. Only the steady-state conditions are dealt with and not the initial switching transients. Where possible, the design equations are converted to dimensionless form and displayed graphically. The ranges of numerical values included for the operating characteristics of the vibrator, such as frequency and closure-time ratio, are those given in the relevant Joint Service Specifications; they will, however, also be applicable to the majority of vibrators manufactured for the general market.

## (1.2) Mode of Operation

A vibratory converter consists essentially of a vibrator, a transformer and various other components for waveform correction, smoothing and radio interference suppression. The d.c. source from which it operates is usually of low voltage and low impedance, such as an accumulator. The vibrator itself behaves as a two-way switch, maintained in continuous vibration by electromagnetic means.

The primary winding of the transformer is usually centre-tapped, the centre tap being connected to the positive side of the supply [Fig. 1(a)]. The vibrator reed is connected to the negative side of the supply, and the fixed contacts on either side of the reed are joined to the outer ends of the primary winding. As current flows alternately in the two half windings in opposite directions, an alternating flux is produced in the core, and hence an alternating voltage is induced in the secondary winding. During that part of the cycle in which the contacts are closed, the constant battery voltage is applied to the primary winding and the voltage waveform is therefore flat-topped. The waveform of the secondary voltage is similar, since substantially the same flux links both windings.

The spacing of the contacts is so adjusted that each is closed about 0.39 of a cycle; this ratio is termed the closure-time ratio. A buffer capacitor  $C_b$  is connected across one of the windings, in order to maintain the magnetizing current while the contacts are open. If it were absent the rapid collapse of magnetizing current as the contacts opened would induce high voltages in the windings, probably resulting in destructive arcing between the contacts.

If a d.c. output is required, a metal or valve rectifier [Figs. 1(b) and 1(c)] may be employed, but the most efficient method is to use a self-rectifying vibrator. This has an additional set of contacts operating in conjunction with the reed, and if these contacts are connected to the outer ends of a centre-tapped secondary winding, a unidirectional but intermittent voltage is obtained between the centre tap and the reed [Fig. 1(d)]. This voltage is smoothed by the reservoir capacitor  $C_r$ , and a further circuit consisting of the choke  $L_s$  and capacitor  $C_s$ . The closure-time ratio of each rectifying contact is usually about 0.34.

The split-reed type of vibrator has two reeds, rigidly connected mechanically but insulated electrically, so that the output may be insulated from the input, as in Fig. 1(e). Other applications of this vibrator are the voltage-doubling output [Fig. 1(f)] and the double-pole change-over input [Fig. 1(g)].

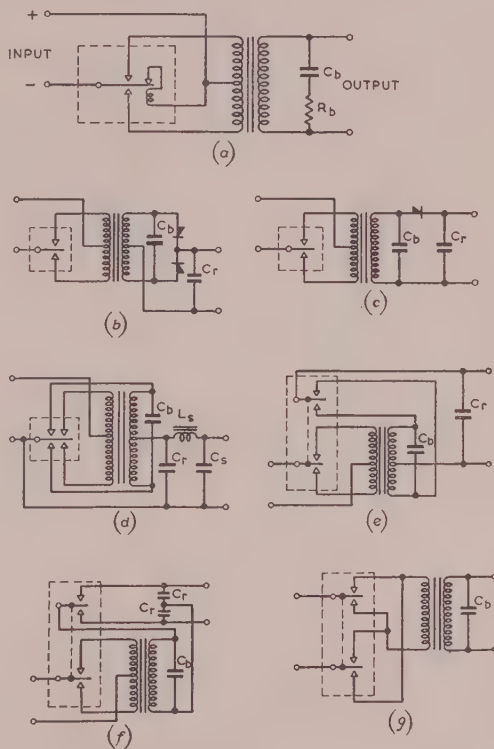


Fig. 1.—Vibratory-converter circuits.

- (a) Basic circuit, a.c. output.
- (b) Interrupter vibrator with separate rectifier, full-wave.
- (c) As (b) but half-wave rectification.
- (d) Self-rectifying vibrator, full-wave.
- (e) Split-reed self-rectifying vibrator, full-wave.
- (f) Split-reed, self-rectifying vibrator, voltage-doubling circuit.
- (g) Double-pole change-over input, a.c. output.

## (2) TRANSFORMER FLUX

## (2.1) Flux Density and Number of Primary Turns

The primary winding is designed so that the flux density in the core at no load at the highest input voltage likely to be encountered has an acceptable value. This value is lower than in mains-operated transformers in order to minimize the peak current on starting, which may cause destructive arcing at the vibrator contacts. For ordinary silicon-iron laminations, typical values of the peak working flux density  $B$  are 8 000 gauss for inputs of 12 volts or below, and about 5 700 gauss for higher input voltages, where the danger of sustained arcing is greater.

The voltage across each half of the primary winding at no load is trapezium shaped and of peak value equal to the battery voltage  $V_1$  [Fig. 2(a)]. The resulting flux is shown in Fig. 2(b), the shaded portion being that maintained by the current flowing from the buffer capacitor. If it is assumed to a first approximation that the sloping sides of the voltage waveform are linear, the average value over a half-cycle is  $(1 + 2k_1)V_1/2$  volts, and at no load this may be equated to the average induced e.m.f.,



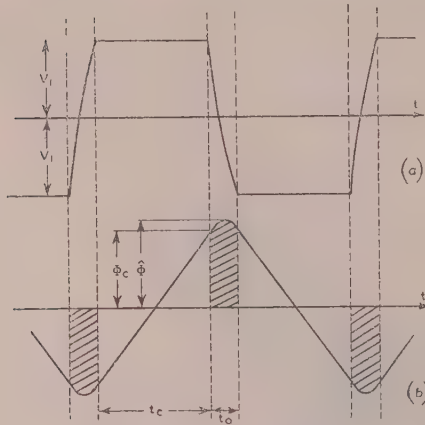


Fig. 2.—No-load waveforms.

(a) Voltage across half primary winding.  
(b) Core flux.

The contacts are closed during the intervals  $t_c$ , open during  $t_o$ .

given by  $4f\Phi N \times 10^{-8}$  volts. Hence the number of turns required in each half of the primary winding is given by

$$N = \frac{(1 + 2k_1)V_1 \times 10^8}{8f\bar{B}A_i} = \frac{0.89V_1 \times 10^8}{4f\bar{B}A_i} \text{ for } k_1 = 0.39 \quad (1)$$

Comparison may be made with the expression for a sinusoidal supply, namely

$$N = \frac{V_1 \times 10^8}{4.44f\bar{B}A_i} = \frac{0.90V_1 \times 10^8}{4f\bar{B}A_i} \quad (2)$$

The two expressions are almost identical, but it should be noted that  $V_1$  in the vibrator formula is the peak value (the battery voltage) not the r.m.s. value.

Sometimes<sup>1</sup> the value of flux density  $B_c$  attained at the end of a closed interval of the contacts, rather than the true peak value  $\bar{B}$ , is regarded as the important design figure. Since a steady e.m.f. of  $V_1$  volts is induced by a flux change of  $2\Phi_c$  in a time  $k_1/f$  seconds, the expression for  $B_c$  is

$$B_c = \frac{k_1 V_1 \times 10^8}{2fA_i N} \quad (3)$$

In one method of calculating the buffer capacitance (Section 3.2) a knowledge of the average flux density  $B_m$  during an open interval of the contacts is required. By integration over this interval its value may be shown to be

$$B_m = \frac{(1 + 4k_1)V_1 \times 10^8}{12fA_i N} \quad (4)$$

For  $k_1 = 0.39$  the three flux densities are related by  $B_c = 0.875\bar{B}$  and  $B_m = 0.96\bar{B}$ .

### (2.2) Asymmetry of Flux Waveform

Unsatisfactory operation of vibrator convertors may be caused by conditions in which the transformer flux has a unidirectional component. For example, the employment of half-wave rectification [Fig. 1(c)] would produce such a component and this circuit is therefore not recommended, except possibly as an auxiliary supplying only a fraction of the total output. A

similar flux unbalance would result from the adoption of half-wave transformer input, that is a circuit in which the primary winding has no centre tap and the current flowing is merely interrupted instead of being periodically reversed as in the conventional arrangement.

Asymmetry of the flux waveform may also result if the contacts on either side of the vibrating reed have unequal contact resistances or unequal closure-time, or if the halves of the transformer primary winding have unequal resistances. Usually, the effect of these inequalities is small, but it increases with load and may be important in vibratory convertors for high powers.

## (3) BUFFER CAPACITANCE AND NO-LOAD LOSSES

### (3.1) Calculation of the Buffer Capacitance by means of the Equivalent Circuit

#### (3.1.1) Theoretically Ideal Buffering.

Under no-load conditions the equivalent circuit is that shown in Fig. 3, where the transformer primary winding is represented by an inductance  $L_n$  carrying the magnetizing current and a parallel resistance  $R_n$  carrying the loss current. The effective leakage inductance and the resistance of the primary winding

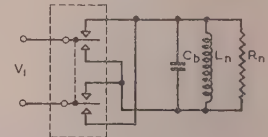


Fig. 3.—Equivalent circuit referred to the primary winding at no load.

may be neglected at no load. For simplicity the buffer capacitor  $C_b$  is shown connected across the primary winding and a double-pole change-over input circuit is considered.

At the moment when the contacts open, the circuit is at voltage  $V_1$ , and it then oscillates freely until the contacts close after the interval  $t_o$ . Ideally, the capacitance should be related to the other circuit parameters and the intervals  $t_c$  and  $t_o$  that the voltage just reaches the value  $-V_1$  as the contacts close. The voltage then has the waveform shown in Fig. 2(a) and the current in  $L_n$  has a shape similar to that of the flux shown in Fig. 2(b). If a capacitance larger than the ideal is employed, the transformer is said to be over-buffered, and if too small a value it is under-buffered. It is usual in practice to adopt over-buffering, but the theoretical ideal will be considered first.

It may be shown by the method outlined in Section 11.1 that for ideal buffering the circuit parameters should be related by equation

$$\frac{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)t_c \sin \omega t_o}{2\omega} - \cos \omega t_o - \cosh \alpha t_o = 0$$

where  $\alpha = -1/2C_b R_n$  and  $\omega^2 = 1/L_n C_b - (1/2C_b R_n)^2$ . This is a corresponding expression for the non-oscillatory condition when  $1/L_n C_b < (1/2C_b R_n)^2$ .

When the substitutions  $t_c = k_1/f$  and  $t_o = (1 - 2k_1)/2f$  are made, the equation is seen to be in three variables, namely  $k_1$ ,  $f^2 L_n C_b$  and  $f L_n / R_n$ . The relationship between the last two is plotted in Fig. 4(a) for three values of  $k_1$  centred on 0.39. The boundary between the oscillatory and non-oscillatory regions is also shown.

It will be observed that in general there are two values of  $f^2 L_n C_b$  for any value of  $f L_n / R_n$ , but it is found that the lower

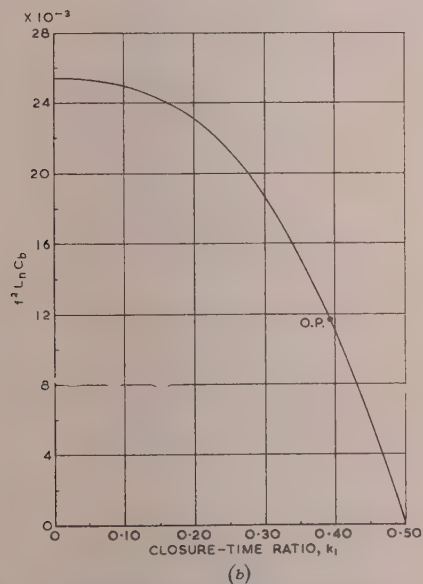
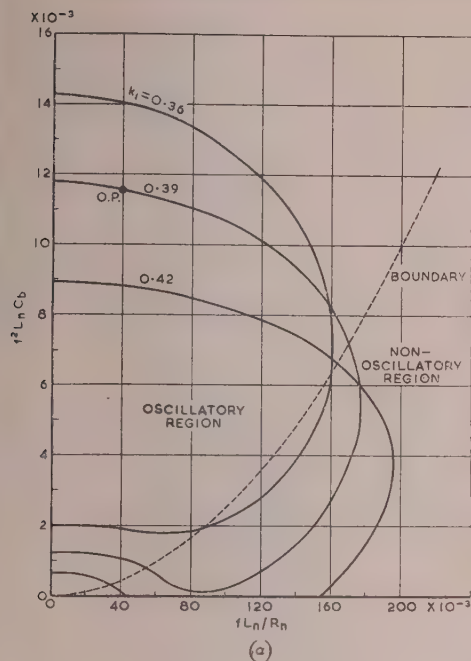


Fig. 4.—Relation between circuit parameters of Fig. 3 for ideal buffering.

- (a) General.  
 (b) With negligible iron loss ( $R_n \rightarrow \infty$ ).  
 O.P. Typical practical operating point.

ue is not of practical importance because its adoption causes voltage to pass through a peak before reaching the final desired value of  $-V_1$ ; also the peak current is high.

Fig. 4(a) also indicates that for a given value of  $k_1$  there is a minimum value of  $f L_n / R_n$ , above which there is no corresponding value of  $f^2 L_n C_b$ . This means that if the losses are sufficiently high ( $R_n$  small) it is impossible to choose a capacitor to give the desired waveform. The waveform then resembles that for the under-buffered condition [Fig. 5(e)].

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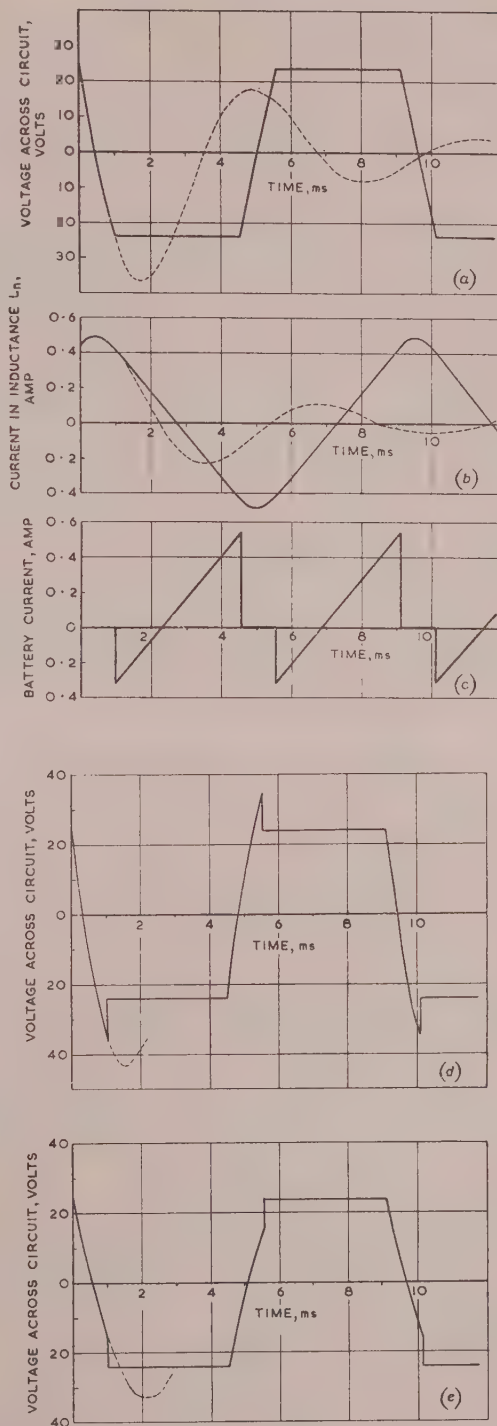


Fig. 5.—Calculated voltage and current waveforms at no load.

— Actual waveform.  
 - - - Free oscillation.

- (a)–(c) With ideal buffering,  $C_b = 9.45 \mu\text{F}$ .  
 (d) With under-buffering,  $C_b = 8 \mu\text{F}$ .  
 (e) With over-buffering,  $C_b = 12 \mu\text{F}$ .

$V_1 = 24$  volts,  $f = 110$  c/s,  $k_1 = 0.39$ ,  $L_n = 0.1$  henry,  $R_n = 225$  ohms.



At the opposite extreme is the case of negligible losses ( $R_n \rightarrow \infty$ ) for which eqn. (5) reduces to

$$\frac{1}{2}\omega t_c = \cot \frac{1}{2}\omega t_o \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

where  $\omega^2 = 1/L_n C_b$ . This equation is in two variables,  $k_1$  and  $f^2 L_n C_b$ , and is plotted in Fig. 4(b). A typical value of  $f L_n / R_n$  is 0.04, and since in this region the curves of Fig. 4(a) are fairly flat it is seen that neglect of the iron losses is usually justified.

### (3.1.2) The Effect of Buffer Capacitance upon Voltage Waveform.

The effect of buffer capacitance upon waveform is illustrated in Fig. 5. The moment when the contacts open has been chosen as the time origin; the figure shows what the waveforms would be if the contacts did not close again (damped oscillations) and also the waveforms which are actually obtained owing to the cyclic switching of the contacts.

Figs. 5(a)–5(c) relate to the ideal value of buffer capacitance given by the appropriate curve of Fig. 4(a) and were plotted with the aid of eqns. (36), (37), (38) and (40).

Figs. 5(d) and 5(e) were plotted with the aid of eqns. (37), (38) and (39). In the under-buffered condition the voltage falls suddenly from 34.6 volts to 24 volts as the contacts close, and in the over-buffered condition it rises from 15.5 volts to 24 volts.

Departure from ideal buffering involves a waste of power and is a source of radio interference, but under-buffering is the more destructive condition owing to the peak voltages which occur. In order to allow for the fall in closure-time during the life of the contacts it is common practice to over-buffer initially to such an extent that the vertical portion of the waveform is about 40% of the peak-to-peak amplitude.

### (3.2) Direct Calculation of the Buffer Capacitance from the Magnetization Curve of the Core Material

The method of Section 3.1.1 requires a knowledge of the inductance of the transformer primary winding, which would be calculated from the magnetization curve of the core material. However in practical design a more direct method, which neglects the effect of the iron losses, is to employ the curve to read off the magnetizing force  $H_m$  corresponding to the average flux density  $B_m$  existing during an open interval of the contacts [eqn. (4)]. The average magnetizing current,  $I_m$ , which is to be supplied by the buffer capacitor may thus be determined, due allowance being made for the effective length,  $l_g$ , of the air-gap introduced by the construction of the core.

For the purpose of calculation, it will be assumed that all the capacitance is supplied across one half of the primary winding, or across the whole primary in the case of a double-pole change-over input. The equivalent capacitance for any other winding may be derived, since it is inversely proportional to the square of the number of turns in the winding.

With the usual degree of over-buffering the free oscillation during an open interval of the contacts encompasses a voltage change of  $1.2V_1$ , so that the average capacitor current in this interval is  $1.2V_1 C_b / t_o$ . Since  $t_o = (1 - 2k_1) / 2f$ , the required capacitance is

$$C_b = \frac{(1 - 2k_1)I_m}{2.4fV_1} \quad \dots \quad (7)$$

A more convenient form for expressing the result graphically in terms of the peak working flux density is obtained by substituting  $I_m = (H_m l + 0.8B_m l_g) / N$ , and then eliminating  $N$  by means of eqn. (1). Finally, by writing  $lA$  as  $M/\delta$ , and rearranging, the expression

$$\frac{C_b V_1^2}{M} = 3.33 \frac{1 - 2k_1}{1 + 2k_1} \frac{\hat{B}}{\delta} \left( H_m + 0.8B_m \frac{l_g}{l} \right) \times 10^{-8} \quad \dots \quad (8)$$

is obtained.

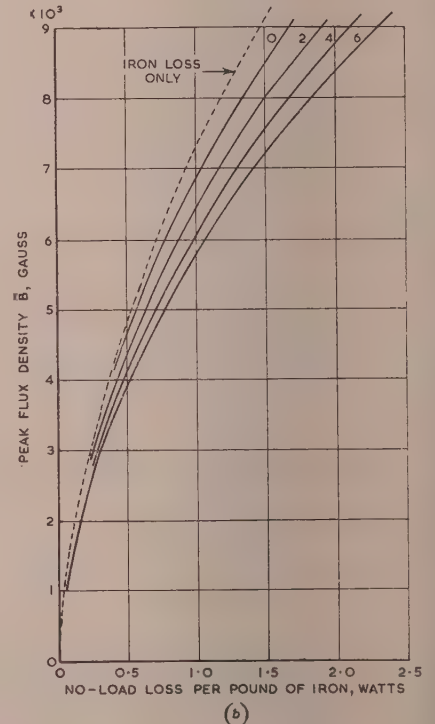
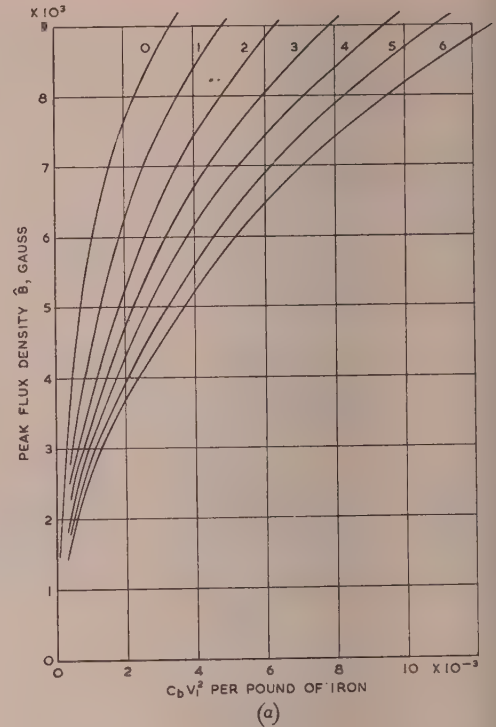


Fig. 6.—Buffer capacitance and total no-load losses for transform incorporating typical silicon-iron laminations.

(a)  $C_b$  is recommended capacitance in farads, allowing for contact wear, and is referred to half-primary. Constructed for  $k_1 = 0.39$ .  
(b) Constructed for  $k_1 = 0.39$  and  $f = 110$  c/s; laminations 0.014 in thick. Left to curves, multiplied by  $10^{-4}$ , denote values of ratio  $g/l$ .

Since for a given core material,  $H_m$  is a function of  $B_m$ , which in turn is a known function of  $\hat{B}$ , the value of  $C_b V_1^2$  per unit weight of iron depends only upon  $\hat{B}$ ,  $k_1$ , and the ratio  $l_g/l$ . In particular it is independent of frequency. Fig. 6(a) gives values of  $C_b V_1^2$  per pound of iron for a typical silicon iron, taking  $k_1$  to be 0.39. Once the size of lamination and depth of stack have been decided it is possible to determine the buffer capacitance, because the values of all the relevant parameters are then known.

Fig. 6(a) indicates that a high proportion of the buffer capacitance is required for the air-gap, so that in the interests of space economy it is essential to assemble the laminations with great care. The value of  $l_g$  may then be taken to be about 0.003 cm.

### (3.3) Losses at No Load

#### (3.1) Iron Loss.

A comparison may be made between the iron losses for a given core material, frequency and peak flux density when the flux is produced by a trapezium-shaped voltage and a sinusoidal voltage respectively. It may be shown that the loss is lower in vibrator operation, but the difference is so small that it is common practice to refer to curves of total iron loss which have been determined for sinusoidal waveforms.

#### (3.2) Loss due to Over-Buffering.

It is found that if a vibratory convertor is operated at no load and the buffer capacitance is varied, there is a point at which the battery current, and hence the input power, is a minimum; at this point practically all the input power is absorbed in iron loss and the voltage waveform assumes very nearly the ideal trapezium shape. Experimental results for a typical convertor are given in Fig. 7.

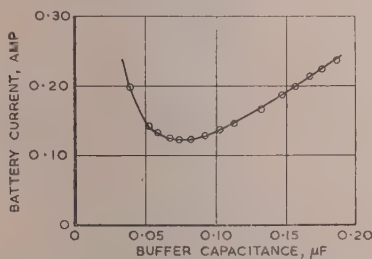


Fig. 7.—Effect of buffer capacitance upon battery current at no load (experimental results).

Capacitor connected across secondary winding.  
Peak induced e.m.f. = 206 volts.  
Battery voltage = 12 volts.

The extra power loss with imperfect buffering is explained by the fact that there is a sudden change of voltage across the capacitor as the contacts close, accompanied by a pulse of current of high peak value, which gives rise to a loss in the resistance of the transformer windings, battery leads, etc. With a small degree of over-buffering the change in the voltage across one half of the primary winding is  $0.8 V_1$  volts, so that if a capacitor is connected across this half-winding the energy stored is  $\frac{1}{2} C_b (0.8 V_1)^2$ . Since this loss occurs twice in each cycle, the power loss is given by

$$P_b = 0.64 f C_b V_1^2 \quad (9)$$

Values of  $C_b V_1^2$  against peak flux density have already been plotted in Fig. 6(a) and thus for a given frequency only a change of scale is required to convert this graph into one showing the over-buffering loss. An additional curve may be inserted giving iron loss for the particular core material and frequency, and

hence, by addition, curves of total no-load loss may be plotted. Fig. 6(b) gives such curves for a typical silicon iron at 110 c/s. In typical cases the over-buffering loss is about 20% of the total no-load loss.

## (4) A.C. OUTPUTS

### (4.1) Resistive Load

#### (4.1.1) Load Characteristics.

At no load the voltage across each half of the primary winding is approximately trapezium-shaped and of peak value  $V_1$ , giving an r.m.s. value  $\sqrt{(1 + 4k_1) V_1^2 / 3}$ . Thus the r.m.s. output is  $\sqrt{(1 + 4k_1) n V_1 / \sqrt{3}}$ .

For low voltage inputs (e.g. 2 volts) the neglect of the voltage drop due to the no-load current flowing in the primary winding may not be justified, and in this case a corrected value ( $V'_1$ ) may be substituted for  $V_1$  in all calculations. It is derived as follows. If the mean battery current at no load (given by the total no-load losses of the transformer) is  $I_n$ , then the mean value during a closed interval of the contacts is  $I_n / 2k_1$ , so that the voltage transformed at no load is given by

$$V'_1 = V_1 - R_1 I_n / 2k_1$$

where  $R_1$  is the resistance of the primary circuit. This is the corrected value of input voltage and may be employed for any condition of load, and with rectified as well as a.c. outputs.

If a purely resistive load is connected across the secondary winding the voltage waveform will approach the rectangular shape of Fig. 8(a), because the buffer capacitor will be rapidly

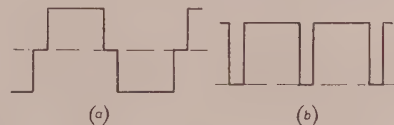


Fig. 8.—Waveforms with a.c. output, resistive load.

(a) Output voltage.  
(b) Battery current.

discharged each time the contacts open; the output current will of course have the same waveform. If the r.m.s. output current is denoted by  $I_{2R}$ , the peak current is  $I_{2R} \sqrt{(2k_1)}$  and the peak output voltage is  $n V'_1 - R I_{2R} \sqrt{(2k_1)}$ .  $R$  is the total circuit resistance referred to the output side, and comprises the contact resistance together with the resistances of the half-primary and secondary windings. It follows that the r.m.s. output voltage is

$$V_{2R} = \sqrt{(2k_1) n V'_1 - R I_{2R}} \quad (10)$$

so that the convertor behaves as a source of voltage  $\sqrt{(2k_1) n V'_1}$  in series with a resistance  $R$ . This characteristic is not valid near open-circuit, where, as mentioned above, the waveform is trapezium-shaped rather than rectangular.

The battery current is of the same waveform as the output current except that the rectangular pulses are unidirectional [Fig. 8(b)]. The average output current calculated over a half-cycle is  $\sqrt{(2k_1) I_{2R}}$ , so that the mean value of battery current is given by

$$I_1 = \sqrt{(2k_1) n I_{2R}} \quad (11)$$

This is the load component of the input current, supplying the copper losses ( $R I_{2R}^2$ ) and the external load; to obtain the total current to the convertor, the components supplying the transformer constant losses and the vibrator driving power should be added.

Each half of the primary winding carries only alternate current



pulses, so that the r.m.s. current  $I_{w1}$  in the winding is  $nI_{2R}/\sqrt{2}$ . In terms of the battery current this may be expressed as

$$I_{w1} = I_1/2\sqrt{k_1} \quad (12)$$

#### (4.1.2) Power Rating of the Transformer.

It is well known that the power input at unity power factor to a transformer may be written

$$P_1 = \lambda f B A_i A_k \times 10^{-8} \quad (13)$$

For a sinusoidal input with a non-rectified output,  $\lambda$  has the value 2.22. To determine  $\lambda$  for a vibrator transformer with a centre-tapped primary winding and feeding a.c. into a resistive load we may rearrange eqn. (1) to make  $V_1$  the subject and, multiplying by  $I_1$ , we obtain

$$P_1 = 8/(1 + 2k_1) f B A_i N I_1 \times 10^{-8} \quad (14)$$

Now the primary and secondary windings occupy respectively net copper areas of  $2I_{w1}N/J$  and  $I_{w2}nN/J$ , so that with the aid of eqns. (11) and (12) we obtain

$$I_1 N / \sqrt{k_1} + I_1 N / \sqrt{(2k_1)} = J A_k$$

$$\text{Hence } \lambda = \frac{8}{1 + 2k_1} \frac{\sqrt{(2k_1)}}{1 + \sqrt{2}} = 1.64 \text{ for } k_1 = 0.39$$

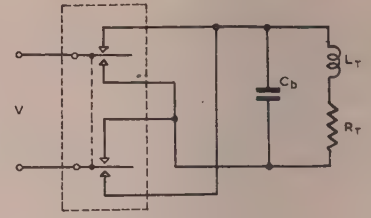
The coefficient  $\lambda$  may be employed as a measure of the permissible power rating of a transformer of given size. It is seen that the power for a given size of vibrator transformer would be 26% lower than that of a transformer with a sinusoidal input of the same frequency, even if the same flux density could be employed. Since the working flux density is normally considerably lower, the power rating is further reduced. It should be noted, however, that the vibrator frequency is usually at least 100 c/s, so that the rating would not necessarily be less than that of a 50 c/s mains transformer. Moreover, if a double-pole change-over circuit is adopted [Fig. 1(g)] the value of  $\lambda$  is improved to 1.98.

#### (4.2) Inductive Load

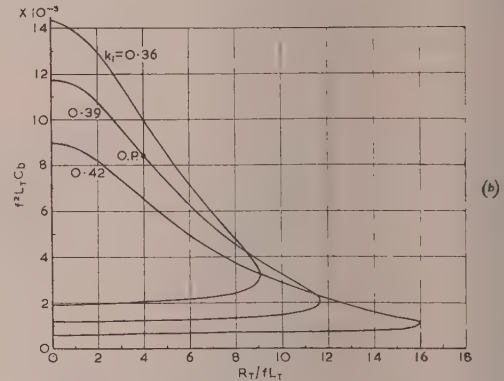
Sometimes a vibratory converter is required to supply alternating current to a highly inductive load, such as a fluorescent lamp with its series stabilizing choke. In such an application, the buffer capacitance needed to supply the load current during the open intervals of the contacts is many times greater than that for normal applications, where only the transformer magnetizing current has to be supplied. In such highly inductive circuits, the voltage waveform—provided that the correct buffer capacitance is supplied—closely resembles the trapezium-shaped no-load waveform. The problem is to calculate the magnitude of the voltage of this waveform necessary to send a current of known r.m.s. value,  $I_{2R}$ , through a load consisting of a resistance  $R_2$  and an inductance  $L_2$  in series; and also to determine the optimum buffer capacitance under these conditions.

In the equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 9(a) the transformer resistance  $R$  has been added to the load resistance  $R_2$  to give the total resistance  $R_T$ , and similarly the leakage inductance  $L$  has been added to  $L_2$  to give  $L_T$ . All values are referred to the secondary;  $V$  is the peak induced secondary e.m.f. and is equal to  $nV_1$ . The problem is closely analogous to that of Section 3.1.1 (Fig. 3), the only difference being that the resistance and inductance are in series instead of in parallel. An outline of the solution is given in Section 11.2, where it is shown that the buffer capacitance should satisfy the following relation.

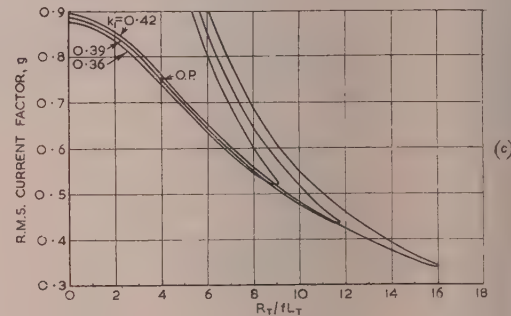
$$\frac{\alpha^2 - \omega^2}{2\alpha\omega} \sinh \alpha t_c \sin \omega t_o + \cosh \alpha t_c \cos \omega t_o + \cosh \alpha(t_c + t_o) = 0 \quad (15)$$



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 9.—Equivalent circuit and characteristics, a.c. output, inductive load.

- (a) Equivalent circuit referred to secondary winding.  
 (b) Relation between circuit parameters for ideal buffering.  
 (c) Output characteristics. Load current given by  $I_{2R} = gV/2\pi f L_T$   
 O.P. Typical practical operating point.

where  $\alpha = -R_T/2L_T$  and  $\omega^2 = 1/L_T C_b - (R_T/2L_T)^2$ .  $t_c$  and  $t_o$  are written in terms of  $k_1$  and  $f$ , the equation is to be in three variables  $k_1$ ,  $f^2 L_T C_b$  and  $R_T/f L_T$ . In Fig. 9(b)  $f^2 L_T C_b$  is plotted against  $R_T/f L_T$  for three values of  $k_1$ .

As in the case of no-load buffering, there are in general values of  $C_b$  for any particular value of  $R_T/f L_T$ , although the higher value is of practical importance, and for each value of  $k_1$  there is a value of  $R_T/f L_T$  above which it is impossible to obtain the ideal waveform.

For a purely inductive load the circuit coincides with that for no-load operation neglecting iron losses, so that Fig. 9 may be employed, substituting  $L_T$  for  $L_n$ .

It should be noted that the capacitance  $C_b$  given by Fig. 9 is that required across the secondary winding for a theoretical ideal waveform, and that in practice the value should be increased by about 50% in order to allow for wear of the contacts. Moreover, to determine the total capacitance it is necessary to add that required to supply the transformer magnetizing current (Section 3.2).

indicated in Section 11.2, an expression for the r.m.s. load current in terms of the peak induced e.m.f.  $V$  is

$$I_{2R} = g \frac{V}{2\pi f L_T} \quad (16)$$

where  $g$  may be termed the "r.m.s. current factor" and is a function of  $k_1$  and  $R_T/fL_T$ . Values are plotted in Fig. 9(c).

The power dissipated in transformer and load is  $R_T I_{2R}^2$ , and this power is ultimately supplied by the battery at voltage  $V_1$ . It follows that the mean input current (load component only) is

$$I_1 = R_T I_{2R}^2 / V_1 \quad (17)$$

The r.m.s. current in the primary winding, if centre-tapped, is the same in terms of  $I_{2R}$  as for a resistive load, namely

$$I_{w1} = n I_{2R} / \sqrt{2} \quad (18)$$

## (5) D.C. OUTPUTS, MEAN RECTIFIED VOLTAGE

### (5.1) Leakage Inductance Neglected

In the majority of designs for power outputs of up to about 100 W, the effect of transformer leakage inductance upon the output voltage may be neglected; the output characteristics for these conditions will therefore be derived first, and the rectifying effect of inductance considered separately in Section 5.2.

The equivalent circuit referred to the output is that shown in Fig. 10(a), and a constant voltage is assumed to be applied across terminals AB, although it is of course effective in supplying the load only during the portions of the cycle in which the rectifying contacts are closed. The applied voltage is the peak voltage  $V$  induced in the secondary winding at no load and is equal to  $nV_1$  volts, or  $nV_1$  if the voltage drop due to the no-load primary current may not be neglected (see Section 4.1.1). The resistance  $R$  is the total circuit resistance referred to the output.

The following results apply also to circuits employing a diode instead of self-rectifying contacts, but in this case  $R$  includes an allowance for the mean resistance of the rectifier, the closure-time ratio to be considered is that of the inter-rectifier contacts ( $k_1$ ) instead of the rectifying contacts ( $k_2$ ).

The voltage and current waveforms are illustrated in Figs. 10(b)–10(d), and it is required to deduce an expression for the mean voltage  $V_2$  across the reservoir capacitor  $C$  in terms of the mean load current  $I_2$ . The problem is rather simpler

than for the corresponding transformer-rectifier system operated from a sinusoidal supply, because the voltage is applied to the circuit for a fixed time (the closure-time of the contacts) and is constant during this interval. In the case of a sinusoidal supply,<sup>6</sup> however, the duration of each current pulse is dependent upon the circuit constants and the magnitude of the load current, because the rectifier begins to conduct when the applied voltage rises to equality with the capacitor voltage, and ceases to conduct at the instant when the current falls to zero.

In Fig. 10(a) choke  $L_s$  and capacitor  $C_s$  constitute the smoothing circuit. The percentage variation of voltage across  $C$  over a cycle is not large, and the percentage variation of current in  $L_s$  is even smaller, because the smoothing circuit and load present a high impedance to alternating current. Hence for the purpose of calculating the mean rectified voltage and the ripple voltage across the capacitor  $C$  it will be assumed that the current in  $L_s$  is constant throughout the cycle at the value  $I_2$ . The assumption is a usual one for capacitor-input rectifying systems, and moreover it is found in practice that for medium and light loads the calculation is sufficiently accurate even when there is no smoothing circuit beyond the capacitor  $C$ .

With the foregoing assumption it may be shown that the output characteristic is linear (see Section 11.3.1) so that the convertor behaves as a source of constant voltage (the open-circuit voltage) in series with an effective resistance  $R_e$ . Thus the internal power loss is  $R_e I_2^2$ , but since it is due to an r.m.s. current  $I_{2R}$  flowing in the circuit resistance  $R$  it follows that

$$R_e = R \left( \frac{I_{2R}}{I_2} \right)^2 \quad (19)$$

In words, the effective resistance of the convertor viewed from the output terminals is equal to the true resistance  $R$  of the circuit multiplied by the square of the form factor of the current flowing in  $R$ . The form factor is of course greater than unity, so that  $R_e$  is greater than  $R$ .

The open-circuit output voltage for full-wave rectification is  $nV_1$ , and hence the output characteristic has the equation

$$V_2 = nV_1 - R_e I_2 \quad (20)$$

It is convenient to write  $R_e = sR$  (21)

where  $s$  may be termed the resistance multiplying factor, since it is the quantity by which the circuit resistance is multiplied to obtain the apparent or effective resistance. In Section 11.3.1 a general expression for  $s$  in terms of  $CR$  and the interval  $t_c$  and  $t_o$  is derived. For full-wave rectification it becomes

$$s = 2(1 - k) + \frac{(1 - 2k)^2}{4fCR} \coth \left( \frac{k}{2fCR} \right) \quad (22)$$

which is a function of  $k$  and  $fCR$ . Values are plotted against  $1/fCR$  in Fig. 11(a). Two special cases of interest are treated below.

If the reservoir capacitance is very large the voltage across it is almost constant over the whole cycle at the value  $V_2$ , so that the current in  $R$  consists of rectangular pulses of peak value  $(V - V_2)/R$ . The form factor of such a current is  $1/\sqrt{(2k)}$ , so that from eqn. (19) it follows that  $s = 1/2k$ . The same result may be obtained from eqn. (22) by finding the limit of  $s$  as  $1/fCR$  approaches zero, remembering that  $\coth x = 1/x$  for small values of  $x$ .

Reference to Fig. 11(a) shows that the curves of  $s$  are fairly flat for small values of  $1/fCR$  (i.e. large capacitance) so that for a considerable range, say up to  $1/fCR = 4$ , the output is substantially independent of reservoir capacitance and vibrator frequency, and the effective resistance depends only upon  $R$  and  $k$ . Within this region a good approximation to the true value of  $s$

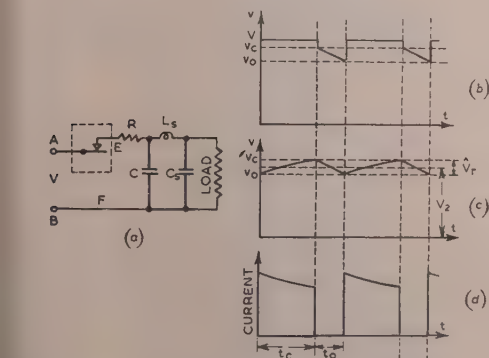


Fig. 10.—Equivalent circuit, d.c. output, neglecting leakage inductance of transformer.

- (a) Equivalent circuit referred to output.
- (b) Voltage across EF.
- (c) Voltage across capacitor C.
- (d) Current in resistor R.



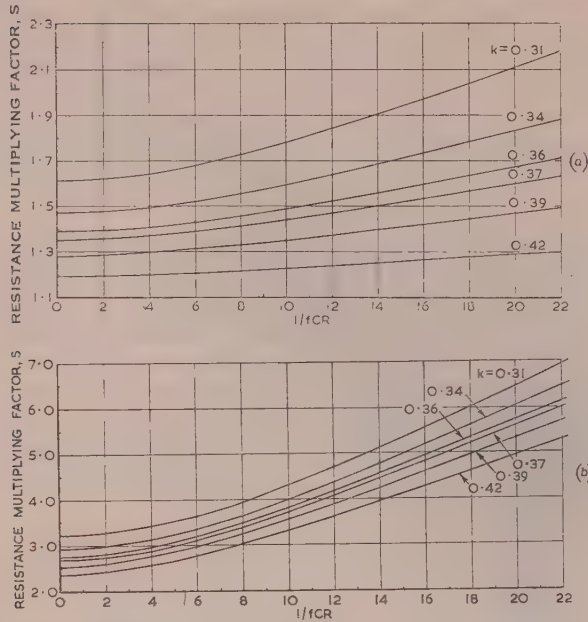


Fig. 11.—Effective resistance of converter, d.c. output, neglecting leakage inductance  $R_e = sR$ .

(a) Full-wave.  
(b) Half-wave.

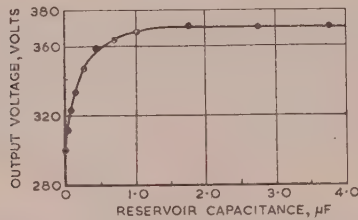


Fig. 12.—Effect of reservoir capacitance upon mean rectified output voltage (experimental results).

Full-wave rectification.  
 $f = 110$  c/s.  
Constant load resistance = 4 630 ohms.

is given by  $1/2k$ . Fig. 12 gives test results obtained on a type converter when the voltage across a constant load resistor was measured while the reservoir capacitance was varied. It will be noted that for capacitances above about  $2 \mu\text{F}$  the voltage is constant and therefore has the same value as with an infinite capacitance. Since in practice a capacitance of about  $2 \mu\text{F}$  would be provided in such a converter, it would normally operate well within the region in which an assumption of infinite capacitance is justified. These conditions apply in the majority of designs employing full-wave rectification.

The other special case is when the circuit resistance  $R$  is small ( $1/fCR$  large). Since  $\coth x = 1$  for large values of  $x$ , the effective resistance becomes

$$R_e = sR = 2(1 - k)R + \frac{(1 - 2k)^2}{4fC}$$

so that even in the case of a circuit with negligible resistance there would still be an effective resistance, having magnitude  $(1 - 2k)^2/4fC$ . This is because the reservoir capacitor supplies the whole load and its voltage therefore falls, during the period that the vibrator contacts are open. This fall in voltage is proportional to the load current, and the resulting fall in the mean voltage over the cycle is also proportional to the load current, so that the net effect is that of the insertion of a resistance.

For half-wave rectification the output eqns. (20) and (21) apply, but  $s$  is a different function of  $k$  and  $fCR$ . Values of  $s$  are plotted in Fig. 11(b).

In a voltage-doubling circuit, each capacitor is part of a full-wave circuit, so that the output equation and the value of  $s$  for one capacitor is the same as for half-wave rectification. The total output is twice that for each capacitor and is therefore given by

$$V_2 = 2nV_1 - R_e I_2 \dots$$

where now  $R_e = 2sR$ . The circuit resistance  $R$  is much smaller than in a full-wave circuit of the same power output, so that  $1/fCR$  is much larger. Consequently, the effect of frequency and capacitance is more pronounced (the working point is no longer on the flat part of the curves of  $s$ ) and an assumption of infinite capacitance is not usually justified.

In all circuits, a decrease in frequency, reservoir capacitance or closure-time ratio causes an increase in the effective resistance, although in different degrees as remarked above. The output formulae are summarized in Table 1, the limiting cases

Table 1  
MEAN RECTIFIED OUTPUT VOLTAGE NEGLECTING LEAKAGE INDUCTANCE

	Full-wave	Half-wave	Voltage-doubling
Output equation ..	$V_2 = nV_1 - R_e I_2$		$V_2 = 2nV_1 - R_e I_2$
Effective resistance, $R_e$	$R_e = sR$		$R_e = 2sR$
Resistance multiplying factor, $s$	$s = 2(1 - k) + \frac{(1 - 2k)^2}{4fCR} \coth \left( \frac{k}{2fCR} \right)$ Plotted in Fig. 11(a)		$s = 2 - k + \frac{(1 - k)^2}{2fCR} \coth \left( \frac{k}{2fCR} \right)$ Plotted in Fig. 11(b)
$s$ ( $C$ large) .. ..	$s = \frac{1}{2k}$		$s = \frac{1}{k}$
$R_e$ ( $R$ small) .. ..	$R_e = 2(1 - k)R + \frac{(1 - 2k)^2}{4fC}$		$R_e = (2 - k)R + \frac{(1 - k)^2}{2fC}$
			$R_e = 2(2 - k)R + \frac{(1 - k)^2}{fC}$

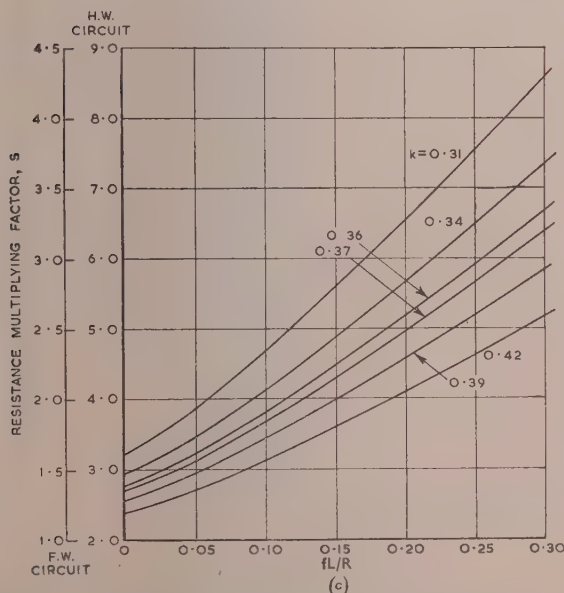
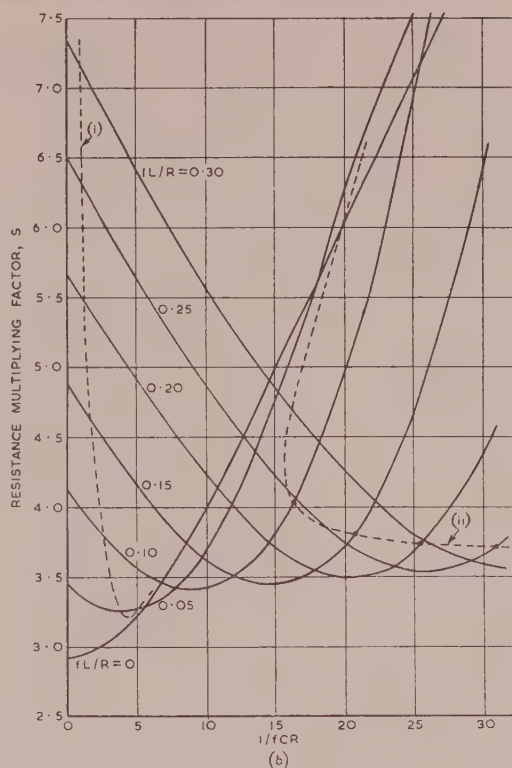
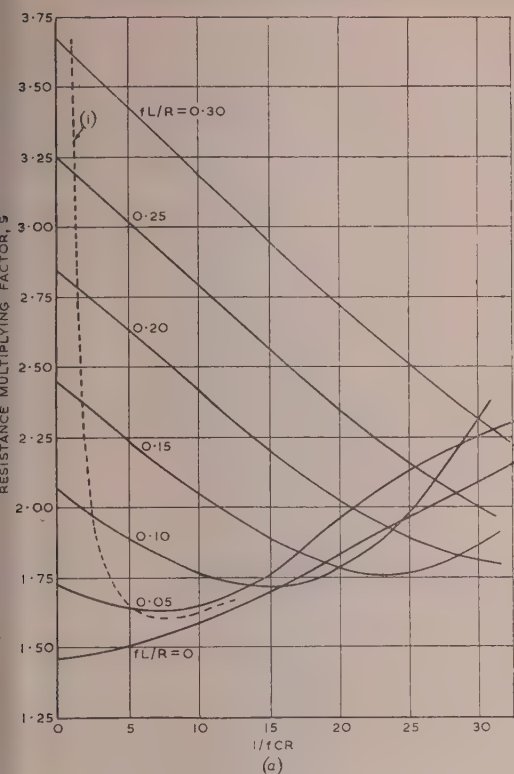


Fig. 13.—Effective resistance of converter, d.c. output, considering leakage inductance  $R_e = sR$ .

- (a) Full-wave,  $k = 0.34$ .  
 (b) Half-wave,  $k = 0.34$ .  
 (c) With infinite reservoir capacitance, full-wave and half-wave.  
 (i) Boundary of oscillatory region.  
 (ii) Curve along which contact unloading occurs.

included. The application of Table 1 in design involves a number of estimates, as is usual in such problems: it is necessary to estimate the required transformer turns ratio, calculate the inductance of the resulting winding, calculate the output by means of the formulae or curves, and compare this with the required value. If it is not correct, a second estimate is then made and so on.

It may be noted that  $V_2$  is the mean voltage across the reservoir capacitor and that the final output is less than this value by the voltage drop  $R_s I_2$  in the winding of the smoothing choke  $L_s$ .

### (5.2) Leakage Inductance considered

The equivalent circuit shown in Fig. 10(a) is now modified by the addition of the transformer leakage inductance referred to the secondary winding  $L$ , in series with the circuit resistance  $R$ .

It may be shown by the method given in Section 11.3.2 that the output characteristic is again linear and has the same equation as for the non-inductive case, except of course that the expressions for the multiplying factor  $s$  are different. The factor  $s$  is now a function of  $k$ ,  $1/fCR$  and  $fL/R$ ; values for full-wave and half-wave rectification assuming  $k = 0.34$  are plotted in



Figs. 13(a) and 13(b). For a voltage-doubling circuit the curves relating to half-wave rectification are again employed. The figures include the curve having the equation  $1/fCR = R/4fL$ , which denotes the boundary between non-oscillatory and oscillatory charging of the reservoir capacitor; conditions are non-oscillatory in the region to the left of the curve.

It may be noted from Figs. 13(a) and 13(b) that each curve of  $s$  has a minimum value, and hence the output voltage is a maximum at some finite value of  $1/fCR$ , in contrast to the non-inductive case, in which the output attains a maximum for  $1/fCR = 0$  (infinite capacitance). Moreover, for part of its length, a curve for high inductance may be below one of low inductance; over this range, therefore, high leakage inductance conduces to high output voltage. These results are due to a resonance effect between the leakage inductance and the reservoir capacitance, and are similar to those obtained for transformer-rectifier systems operating from a sinusoidal supply.<sup>6</sup>

Sometimes inductance is deliberately introduced to so shape the current pulses in the transformer that the contacts open at virtually zero current. This condition is fulfilled along the curve (ii) in Fig. 13(b). The subject is more fully discussed in Section 8.

For large values of reservoir capacitance the expression for the multiplying factor reduces to a simple function of  $k$  and  $fL/R$  (see Section 11.3.2). The function is plotted in Fig. 13(c), from which it may be noted that the value of  $s$  for half-wave rectification is twice that for full-wave rectification, other parameters being equal.

For a range of transformers designed for different frequencies but a given power, the value of  $fL/R$  increases with frequency. Thus the role played by leakage inductance in determining the regulation of convertors will be greater as vibrators of higher frequencies are employed. The value of  $fL/R$  also increases with size, i.e. with power rating. Moreover, it is higher for a voltage-doubling circuit than for a full-wave circuit. Typical figures for 110 c/s are 0.05 to 0.08 for full-wave rectification and approximately double these figures for the voltage-doubling circuit. Typical values of  $1/fCR$  are 1 to 5 and 7 to 15 respectively for the two circuits.

#### (6) D.C. OUTPUTS, COPPER LOSS AND TRANSFORMER POWER RATING

##### (6.1) Currents and Copper Loss

The battery current corresponding to the rectified load current  $I_2$  is given by

$$I_1 = nI_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (25)$$

for full-wave and half-wave circuits

and by

$$I_1 = 2nI_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

for voltage-doubling circuits. Once again, as for a.c. output this is the load component, and to obtain the total current flowing to the transformer the no-load component must be added.

For all circuits the copper loss due to the load current is

$$P_k = R_e I_2^2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

Since this power is also equal to  $RI_{2R}^2$ , it follows that the current in the circuit resistance  $R$  for full- or half-wave rectification is given by

$$I_{2R} = \sqrt{s} I_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

and for the voltage-doubling circuit by

$$I_{2R} = \sqrt{2s} I_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

In order to determine the current density in the transformer windings it is necessary to derive expressions for the currents. With an untapped primary winding and bridge rectification these currents are given by

$$I_{w2} = I_{2R} = \sqrt{s} I_2 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

and

$$I_{w1} = n\sqrt{s} I_2 = \sqrt{s} I_1 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad .$$

On the other hand, if either winding is centre-tapped alternate current pulses flow in each half, and then the above expressions are divided by  $\sqrt{2}$ .

The above results and the remaining expressions for a voltage-doubling circuit are summarized in Table 2. The half-wave circuit is not included, because owing to flux polarization magnetizing current assumes importance and invalidates the above expressions for the current in the windings. The numerical value of  $s$  in Table 2 is read from the curves appropriate to the particular type of rectification, and the value of  $k$  is either  $k_2$  according as an external rectifier or a self-rectifying vibrator is employed. The Table also includes the corresponding results for negligible leakage inductance combined with large reservoir capacitance, i.e. putting  $s = 1/2k$  for full-wave rectification and so on.

##### (6.2) Power Rating of Transformer

In Section 4.1.2 it was indicated that the power ratings of transformers in different circuits may be compared by means of the coefficient  $\lambda$  in eqn. (13), and the numerical value of  $\lambda$  for a.c. output was computed. Similarly, with the aid of the expressions for  $I_{w1}$  and  $I_{w2}$  given in Table 2,  $\lambda$  may be calculated for the various types of rectifying circuit. The results are summarized in Table 3. The particular case of negligible leakage

Table 2  
CURRENTS FLOWING IN VIBRATORY CONVERTOR (RECTIFIED OUTPUT)

Rectifying circuit	$I_{w1}/I_1$				$I_{w2}/I_2$		$I_1/I_2$
	Centre-tapped primary		Double-pole change-over primary				
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	
Full-wave (centre-tapped secondary) ..	$\frac{\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}}$	$\sqrt{s}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2k)}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}}$	$n$
Full-wave (bridge) .. .. .	$\frac{\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}}$	$\sqrt{s}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2k)}}$	$\sqrt{s}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2k)}}$	$n$
Voltage-doubling .. .. .	$\frac{\sqrt{s}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{k}}$	$\frac{\sqrt{s}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(2k)}}$	$\sqrt{(2s)}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{k}}$	$2n$

$I_{w1}, I_{w2}$  = r.m.s. currents in primary and secondary windings.

$I_1, I_2$  = battery current, load current (mean values).

(a) General. (b) With  $L = 0, C = \infty$ .

**Table 3**  
POWER RATING OF VIBRATOR TRANSFORMERS, VALUE OF COEFFICIENT  $\lambda$

Type of output	Centre-tapped primary			Double-pole change-over primary		
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)
Alternating current	$\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{k_1}}{1+2k_1}$	—	1.64	$4\sqrt{2} \frac{\sqrt{k_1}}{1+2k_1}$	—	1.98
Half-wave rectification (centre-tapped secondary)	$2\sqrt{2} \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$4 \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.31	$\frac{8}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.54
Half-wave rectification (bridge)	$\frac{8}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.54	$4 \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$4\sqrt{2} \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.86
Voltage-doubling rectification	$\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$\frac{8\sqrt{2}}{1+\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.54	$4\sqrt{2} \frac{1}{(1+2k_1)\sqrt{s}}$	$4\sqrt{2} \frac{\sqrt{k_2}}{1+2k_1}$	1.86

(a) General, (b)  $L = 0$ ,  $C = \infty$ . (c)  $L = 0$ ,  $C = \infty$ ,  $k_1 = 0.39$ ,  $k_2 = 0.34$ .  
For a sinusoidal input, and a.c. output,  $\lambda = 2.22$ .

capacitance and large reservoir capacitance is included, and these conditions are then further particularized by putting  $k_1 = 0.39$ ,  $k_2 = 0.34$ , thus obtaining a numerical value of  $\lambda$ . A self-excited vibrator is assumed except in the general case (a)]. The value of  $\lambda$  for an a.c. output is also included for completeness. As is to be expected, the employment of re-tapped windings, where each half supplies power only during alternate half-cycles, substantially reduces the permissible power rating of a given size of transformer.

## (7) D.C. OUTPUTS, RIPPLE VOLTAGE

### (7.1) Peak-to-Peak Ripple Voltage

During an open interval of the contacts the voltage across the reservoir capacitor falls from  $v_c$  to  $v_o$  [see Fig. 10(c)]. Except in highly inductive circuits such as are employed for contact welding (Section 8.3),  $v_c$  and  $v_o$  are the maximum and minimum values of the instantaneous voltage during a closed interval also, so that the peak-to-peak ripple voltage is  $v_c - v_o$ . If the current flowing in the smoothing choke is again assumed to be substantially constant over the cycle at the value  $I_2$ , this ripple voltage is given by

$$\hat{V}_r = v_c - v_o = I_2 t_o / C \quad (32)$$

When the appropriate values of  $t_o$  are substituted, the formula for full-wave rectification becomes

$$\hat{V}_r = \frac{1-2k}{2fC} I_2 \quad (33)$$

and for half-wave rectification,

$$\hat{V}_r = \frac{1-k}{fC} I_2 \quad (34)$$

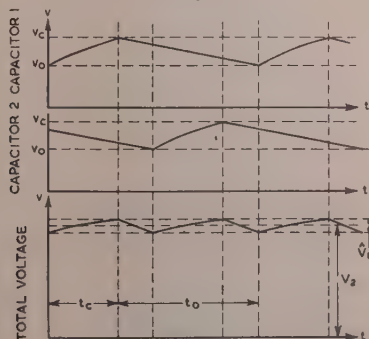


Fig. 14.—Voltage waveforms in voltage-doubling circuit.

In a voltage-doubling circuit the total output voltage rises while either vibrator contact is closed and falls while both are open (Fig. 14). In this latter interval, whose duration  $(1-2k)/2f$  seconds is the same as in full-wave rectification, the load current is supplied by the two capacitors in series, so that the effective capacitance is  $\frac{1}{2}C$  farads. The fall in voltage, and hence the peak-to-peak ripple, is thus given by

$$\hat{V}_r = \frac{1-2k}{fC} I_2 \quad (35)$$

Taking the ripple for full-wave rectification to be unity, that for a voltage-doubling circuit is seen to be 2, other factors being equal. On the same basis, and assuming  $k = 0.34$ , the ripple for half-wave rectification is 4. It will be noted that the ripple voltage is directly proportional to load current, inversely proportional to vibrator frequency and reservoir capacitance, and substantially independent of the impedance and output voltage of the transformer.

### (7.2) Harmonic Analysis of Ripple Voltage

The fundamental frequency of the ripple voltage is that of the vibrator for half-wave rectification, and is twice this value for full-wave or voltage-doubling circuits, provided that the contacts on either side of the reed have equal closure times.

In Section 11.4 the harmonic content of the ripple is analysed, neglecting the small modifying effect of transformer leakage inductance. In order to obtain the results in dimensionless form a ripple factor  $r_q$  is introduced, which expresses the r.m.s. value of the  $q$ th harmonic as a fraction of the peak-to-peak ripple voltage  $\hat{V}_r$ .

For a voltage-doubling circuit, the ripple harmonics across each capacitor are given by the formulae for half-wave rectification, but the net output ripple must be calculated by combining

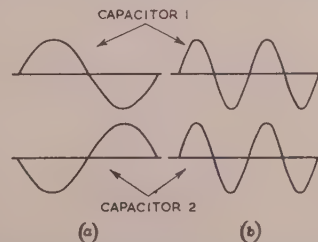


Fig. 15.—Harmonic analysis of ripple in voltage-doubling circuit.

(a) Fundamental. (b) Second harmonic.

The figure illustrates the waveforms during one cycle of the vibrator and demonstrates that odd harmonics cancel, even harmonics add.



Table 4  
RIPPLE VOLTAGE ACROSS RECTIFIED OUTPUT  
R.M.S. value of  $q$ th harmonic =  $r_q \hat{V}_r$

Rectifying circuit	Peak-to-peak ripple voltage $\hat{V}_r$	Fundamental frequency	Condition	Ripple factor, $r_q = \sqrt{(r_{sq}^2 + r_{cq}^2)}$	
			Sine component ( $r_{sq}$ )	Cosine component ( $r_{cq}$ )	
Full-wave	$\frac{1-2k}{2fC} I_2$	$2f$	General	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q \sqrt{1 + (4\pi q f C R)^2}} \left[ \cos 2\pi q k + \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{\pi q (1 - 2k)} \right]$	$\frac{2\sqrt{2}fCR}{\pi q \sqrt{1 + (4\pi q f C R)^2}} \left( 1 + \frac{1-2k}{4fCR} \coth \frac{k}{2fCR} \right) \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{1 - 2k}$
			$fCR$ Large	Zero	$\frac{\sqrt{2} \sin 2\pi q k}{4\pi^2 q^2 k (1 - 2k)}$
			$fCR$ Small	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q} \left[ \cos 2\pi q k + \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{\pi q (1 - 2k)} \right]$	$\frac{\sqrt{2} \sin 2\pi q k}{2\pi q}$
Half-wave	$\frac{1-k}{fC} I_2$	$f$	General	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q \sqrt{1 + (2\pi q f C R)^2}} \left[ \cos \pi q k + \frac{\sin \pi q k}{\pi q (1 - k)} \right]$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}fCR}{\pi q \sqrt{1 + (2\pi q f C R)^2}} \left( 1 + \frac{1-k}{2fCR} \coth \frac{k}{2fCR} \right) \frac{\sin \pi q k}{1 - k}$
			$fCR$ Large	Zero	$\frac{\sqrt{2} \sin \pi q k}{2\pi^2 q^2 k (1 - k)}$
			$fCR$ Small	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q} \left[ \cos \pi q k + \frac{\sin \pi q k}{\pi q (1 - k)} \right]$	$\frac{\sqrt{2} \sin \pi q k}{2\pi q}$
Voltage-doubling	$\frac{1-2k}{fC} I_2$	$2f$	General	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q \sqrt{1 + (4\pi q f C R)^2}} \left[ \cos 2\pi q k + \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{2\pi q (1 - k)} \right] \frac{1 - k}{1 - 2k}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}fCR}{\pi q \sqrt{1 + (4\pi q f C R)^2}} \left( 1 + \frac{1-k}{2fCR} \coth \frac{k}{2fCR} \right) \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{1 - 2k}$
			$fCR$ Large	Zero	$\frac{\sqrt{2} \sin 2\pi q k}{4\pi^2 q^2 k (1 - 2k)}$
			$fCR$ Small	$\frac{\sqrt{2}(1-k)}{2\pi q (1 - 2k)} \left[ \cos 2\pi q k + \frac{\sin 2\pi q k}{2\pi q (1 - k)} \right]$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}(1-k) \sin 2\pi q k}{2\pi q (1 - 2k)}$

ripples across the two capacitors, and these are not in phase. However, it is shown in Fig. 14 that the waveform across one capacitor is the same as that across the other, but shifted by a period of the vibrator. As shown in Fig. 15, which

employs the fundamental and the second harmonics as examples, this means that the odd harmonics are  $180^\circ$  out of phase so that they cancel each other, but the even harmonics are in phase so that they are additive. Thus the amplitude of the  $q$ th output harmonic is twice that of the  $2q$ th harmonic across one capacitor.

The formulae for peak ripple and ripple factor are given in Table 4 for the three circuits. The limiting cases  $fCR \rightarrow \infty$  (large reservoir capacitance) and  $fCR \rightarrow 0$  (small circuit resistance) are also included. In the former case both the charge and the discharge of the reservoir capacitor are substantially linear, and the ripple factors for the voltage-doubling and full-wave circuits are equal.

An examination of the formulae given in Table 4 indicates that the ripple factor for any circuit is a function of  $q$ ,  $k$  and  $fCR$  only. In Fig. 16 the formulae have been plotted for the fundamental ( $q = 1$ ) and the second harmonic ( $q = 2$ ) for the three rectifying circuits, taking  $k = 0.34$ . The higher harmonics are usually unimportant, especially when the reservoir capacitance is large.

Further smoothing of the ripple may be accomplished in the conventional manner by means of the choke  $L_s$  and the capacitor  $C_s$  [Fig. 10(a)], the harmonic of angular frequency  $q\omega_f$  being attenuated by the factor

$$(q\omega_f)^2 L_s C_s - 1$$

## (8) D.C. OUTPUTS WITH CONTACT UNLOADING FOR HIGH POWER OPERATION

### (8.1) General

Dixey and Wilman<sup>7</sup> have investigated and described circuits in which the current pulses are so shaped that the contacts open virtually at no load. The main purposes are to achieve

- Greatly reduced transfer of contact material, enabling vibrator convertors to be operated at much higher powers than hitherto (e.g. 200–300 watts, compared with approximately 50 watts).
- Elimination of the high voltage peaks which normally occur owing to the interruption of the current flowing in the transformer leakage inductance. Hence the insulation of the vibrator and the transformer would be less highly stressed and radio interference would be reduced.

In this Section the series-resonant unloading circuit, as applied to convertors with rectified output, will be analysed.

The general effect of the transformer leakage inductance and reservoir capacitance on the rectified output voltage was discussed in Section 5.2. In a circuit employing a self-rectifying vibrator, if the reservoir capacitance is progressively decreased from a large value, all other parameters remaining constant, then, provided that the circuit inductance is sufficiently high, the waveform of the current flowing in the secondary winding changes in the manner indicated in Fig. 17, which shows only a

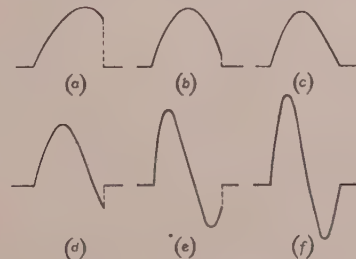


Fig. 17.—Waveforms of current flowing in rectifying contacts during one half-cycle of the vibrator.

(a)–(f) are for decreasing values of reservoir capacitance; contact unloading occurs (c) and (f).

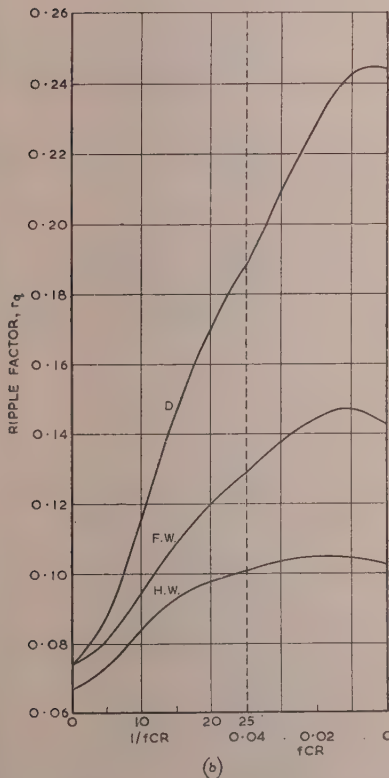
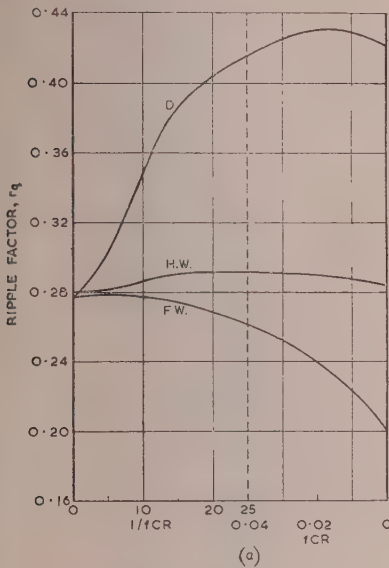


Fig. 16.—Magnitude of harmonics of ripple voltage.

(a) Fundamental.  
(b) Second harmonic.

F.W. = Full-wave; H.W. = half-wave.  
D = voltage-doubling circuit.  
All curves are for  $k = 0.34$ .  
The r.m.s. value of  $q$ th harmonic =  $r_q \hat{V}_r$ .



half-cycle of vibrator operation. The primary current will have a similar waveform. It is seen that it is possible to choose the capacitance in relation to the inductance such that the current is zero at the instant the rectifying contacts open [(c) and (f) in Fig. 17]. In (c) the waveform has completed a half-cycle of the damped oscillation, in (f) a whole cycle. The latter is of course undesirable, as the reversed current subtracts from the mean rectified output current. The circuit inductance  $L$  required to achieve the desired waveform is usually greater than the transformer leakage inductance, so that a separate choke is usually included in series with the transformer secondary winding.

### (8.2) Relationship between the Circuit Parameters

The necessary relationship between the circuit parameters for the current to take the waveforms (c) or (f) is given in Section 11.5.1 [eqn. (64)]. For a given type of rectification and contact closure-time ratio it may be expressed as a relation between  $f^2LC$  and  $fCR$ ; this is plotted in Fig. 18 for a half-wave circuit with a range of values of  $k$ , and for a full-wave circuit with  $k = 0.34$ .

It will be noted that the relationship depends only upon the parameters of the vibrator and the circuit; it is independent of the load current  $I_2$ , a useful feature when the load is variable. Mathematically, this independence is the consequence of the initial assumption that the current in the smoothing choke is substantially constant over the cycle. In other words, in order to render the unloading property independent of the load current, the load and smoothing circuit must have a high a.c. impedance compared to that of the reservoir capacitor. Thus the smoothing inductance  $L_s$  and the capacitance  $C$  should each be high, conditions which are desirable in any case in order to minimize the output ripple. If the impedance of the smoothing choke is not sufficiently high, it is found that at heavy overloads the contact unloading property is lost to some extent and the waveform approaches that of (b) in Fig. 17.

The curves in Fig. 18 show that in general there are two possible values of  $f^2LC$  for any value of  $fCR$ . The higher value corresponds to waveform (c), the lower to (f). Moreover for any value of  $k$  there is a maximum permissible value of  $fCR$  above which it is impossible to achieve the desired unloading property.

The practical application of the curves for half-wave rectification is in the voltage-doubling circuit, while the full-wave circuit usually employs a centre-tapped secondary winding, each half of which has twice the turns of the corresponding voltage-doubling winding. It may be shown that as a consequence the resistance of the full-wave circuit is about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  times that of the doubling circuit. Since Fig. 18 indicates that the maximum permissible values of  $fCR$  in the two circuits have a ratio of about  $1 : 2\frac{1}{2}$ , it follows that the maximum permissible values of reservoir capacitance have a ratio of about  $1 : 14$ . This low value of capacitance in a full-wave circuit necessitates high values of both series input inductance  $L$  and smoothing inductance  $L_s$ . Moreover, the size of the series choke will be further increased by the fact that it carries current having a unidirectional component. For these reasons a centre-tapped secondary winding is not usually employed and the voltage-doubling circuit is often favoured. An alternative would be a full-wave bridge circuit employing metal rectifiers or extra contacts on the vibrator, as this would eliminate some of the disadvantages of the centre-tapped circuit. It may also be mentioned that the use of a double-pole change-over input in place of a centre-tapped primary winding has the advantage of keeping  $R$  low and hence  $C$  high.

The choice of operating point on the curves of Fig. 18 will

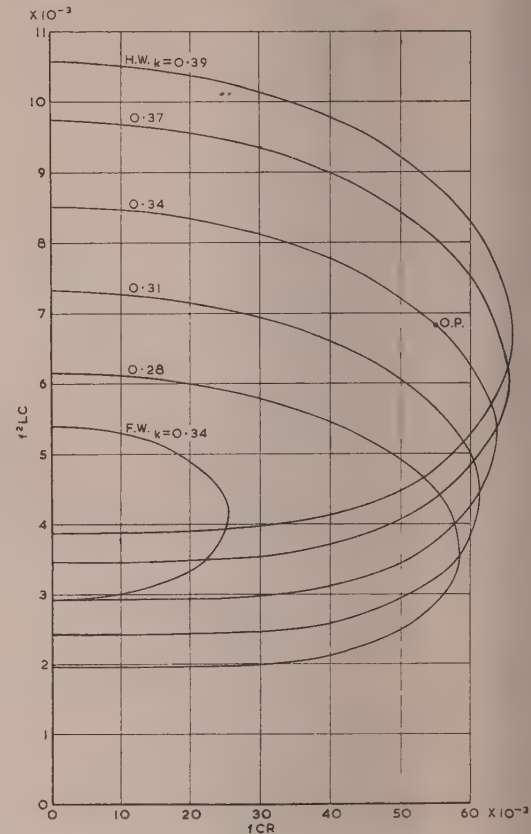


Fig. 18.—Relation between circuit parameters for contact unloading. All curves for half-wave (or voltage-doubling) circuit, except one marked F.W. for full-wave. O.P. Typical practical operating point.

now be considered. It will undoubtedly be on the upper end of a curve, but it remains to be decided whether  $fCR$  should be large or small. Current waveforms for increasing values of  $fCR$  are given in Fig. 19. When  $fCR$  is small the waveform

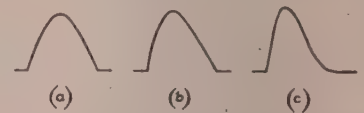


Fig. 19.—Current waveforms with contact unloading. (a)–(c) are for increasing values of  $fCR$ .

nearly symmetrical, having the appearance of one half of a sine wave, and the rate of change of current at the moment the contact opens is high. As  $fCR$  increases the waveform develops a trailing tail and its front becomes steeper. For a limiting value of  $fCR$  (at the turning point of the curves in Fig. 18) the rate of change, as well as the magnitude, of the current is zero at the moment of opening. An approach to this condition is desirable because it permits the timing of the contacts to vary considerably during operating life without a substantial current being interrupted. Thus it appears that the reservoir capacitance (and hence  $fCR$ ) should be large, particularly as this is also the condition which best accommodates changes of load. Moreover, it requires a lower value of series inductance, both because  $f^2LC$  is lower and because, even in

en value of  $f^2LC$ ,  $L$  is inversely proportional to  $C$ . There is a disadvantage, however. For small values of  $fCR$  the curves in Fig. 18 are fairly flat, i.e. the current unloading property is comparatively insensitive to changes in the circuit resistance. Now a high proportion of the circuit resistance is due to the surface resistance of the vibrator primary contacts reflected into the output, and this quantity may be very variable. It follows that to avoid variations in the current waveform from this cause the reservoir capacitance should be small. One possible solution is to make  $fCR$  large (about 0.9 of the permissible maximum) and to take measures to keep the contact resistance low and constant, for example by filling the vibrator with a non-oxidizing gas.

If a change in any of the parameters causes the operating point to move off its appropriate curve in Fig. 18, the current will assume the waveform (b) or (d) (Fig. 17), depending upon whether the new operating point is above or below the curve.

### (8.3) Mean Rectified Voltage and Ripple Voltage

The same linear output characteristics apply as in the more general case dealt with in Section 5.2, but the expression for the resistance multiplying factor  $s$  now assumes a simpler form [eqn. (67) of Section 11.5.2]. In the general case it was expressed as a function of  $k$ ,  $fCR$  and  $fL/R$  (Fig. 13), but now the relationship existing between the parameters allows it to be expressed as a function of  $k$  and  $fCR$  only. Numerical values for a half-wave or a voltage-doubling circuit are plotted in Fig. 20. For a voltage-doubling circuit the effective resistance  $R_e$  is again given by  $2sR$ .

It may be noted that each curve in Fig. 20 is fairly flat until the turning point is approached, so that for a given transformer, and hence a given value of  $R$ , the choice of reservoir capaci-

tance  $C$  is not important as far as the output voltage and the efficiency of the convertor are concerned. A curve of  $s$  against  $1/fCR$  for half-wave rectification has been added to Fig. 13(b). A similar curve is not included in Fig. 13(a) (full-wave rectification) because the values of  $1/fCR$  are outside the range covered in the diagram. Fig. 13(b) shows that for the larger values of  $fL/R$  the operating point for contact unloading occurs not far beyond the point of minimum  $s$ . In all cases the value of  $s$  with contact unloading is lower than it would be for zero inductance with the same values of  $C$  and  $R$ . Thus the addition of inductive impedance in order to achieve contact unloading actually increases the output for a given reservoir capacitance. The value of  $s$  is, however, always higher than it would be with zero inductance and very large capacitance ( $1/fCR \rightarrow 0$ ).

The relative power rating of the transformer may be determined by substituting in the expressions of Table 3 [column (a)] the values of  $s$  given by eqn. (67).

It remains to determine the ripple voltage across the output before smoothing. Only the voltage-doubling circuit is dealt with, as this is the most common application. The peak-to-peak ripple  $\hat{V}_r$  for the non-inductive or slightly inductive circuit has been derived in Section 7.1 [eqn. (35)]. The corresponding ripple  $\hat{V}_r'$  for the contact unloading circuit is derived in Section 11.5.3, and the result is plotted in Fig. 21 in the form of the ratio  $\hat{V}_r'/\hat{V}_r$  [eqn. (71)].

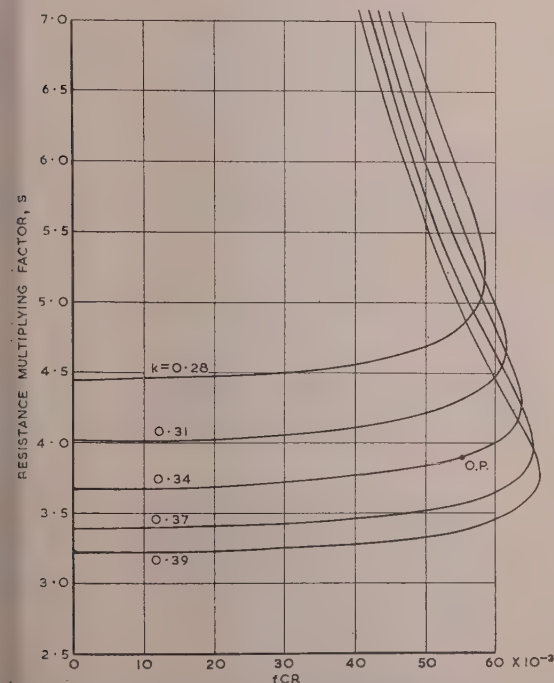


Fig. 20.—Effective resistance of convertor, with contact unloading, half-wave, or voltage-doubling rectification.

Half-wave:  $R_e = sR$ .

Voltage-doubling:  $R_e = 2sR$ .

O.P. Typical practical operating point.

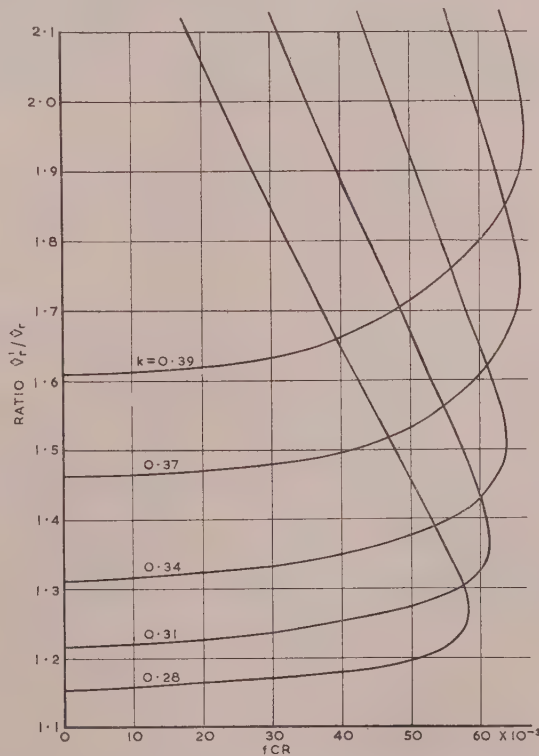


Fig. 21.—Peak-to-peak ripple voltage of voltage-doubling circuit, with contact unloading.

### (9) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## (11) APPENDICES

The method of analysis adopted is as follows. The voltage or current cycle may be divided into two distinct intervals, namely the closed interval of the vibrator contacts ( $t_c$  seconds) and the open interval ( $t_o$  seconds). The differential equations governing the waveforms in the two intervals are formulated and then solved, using the fact that each cycle is identical with the next once starting surges have died away; hence the initial and final conditions of the interval  $t_c$  are respectively equal to the final and initial conditions of the interval  $t_o$ .

## (11.1) Analysis of Buffering Circuit

Consider the equivalent circuit of Fig. 3. During the interval  $t_c$  the instantaneous current in the inductance follows the relation

$$i = \frac{V_1}{L_n} t - i_o \quad (36)$$

where the initial condition  $i = -i_o$  has been incorporated. During the interval  $t_o$  the instantaneous voltage across the circuit with initial condition  $v = V_1$  is given by

$$v = V_1 e^{\alpha t} (G \sin \omega t + \cos \omega t) \quad (37)$$

where  $\alpha = -1/2C_b R_n$ ,  $\omega^2 = 1/L_n C_b - (1/2C_b R_n)^2$ , and  $G$  is a constant to be determined. The expression for the instantaneous current  $i$  is of the same form.

The final current for the interval  $t_c$  is  $i_c$ , and the initial and final currents for the interval  $t_o$  are respectively  $i_c$  and  $i_o$ . Insertion of these conditions yields three simultaneous equations, the solutions of which are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} i_c &= \frac{V_1}{L_n} \frac{\omega t_c - e^{\alpha t_o} \sin \omega t_o}{\omega - e^{\alpha t_o} (\alpha \sin \omega t_o - \omega \cos \omega t_o)} \\ i_o &= \frac{V_1 t_c}{L_n} - i_c \\ G &= \frac{\alpha}{\omega} - \frac{i_c}{\omega C_b V_1} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (38)$$

These expressions are valid for any value of buffer capacitance, and not merely for the optimum value.

For any buffer capacitance, the voltage across the circuit just before the contacts close is

$$V_1 e^{\alpha t_o} (G \sin \omega t_o + \cos \omega t_o) \quad (39)$$

For optimum buffering, however, this voltage is  $-V_1$ , so that

$$G = -\frac{1 + e^{\alpha t_o} \cos \omega t_o}{e^{\alpha t_o} \sin \omega t_o} \quad (40)$$

By substitution in eqn. (38) and elimination of  $i_c$  and  $i_o$ , an expression relating the circuit parameters for optimum buffering may be shown to be

$$\frac{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2) t_c \sin \omega t_o}{2\omega} - \cos \omega t_o - \cosh \alpha t_o = 0 \quad (41)$$

For the non-oscillatory case put  $\omega = j\beta$ , and eqn. (5) becomes

$$\frac{(\alpha^2 - \beta^2) t_c \sinh \beta t_o}{2\beta} - \cosh \beta t_o - \cosh \alpha t_o = 0 \quad (42)$$

## (11.2) A.C. Outputs with Inductive Load

The equivalent circuit is shown in Fig. 9(a) and the waveform are of the general shape shown in Fig. 2. During the interval  $t_c$  the load current is given by

$$i = \frac{V}{R_T} - \left( \frac{V}{R_T} + i_o \right) e^{-R_T t / L_T} \quad (43)$$

and during the succeeding interval  $t_o$  the voltage across the circuit follows the relation

$$v = V e^{\alpha t} (G \sin \omega t + \cos \omega t) \quad (44)$$

where  $\alpha = -R_T / 2L_T$  and  $\omega^2 = 1/L_T C_b - (R_T / 2L_T)^2$ . The same expression for the current. Insertion of the appropriate boundary conditions yields the following relation between the circuit parameters for an ideal trapezium-shaped waveform

$$\frac{\alpha^2 - \omega^2}{2\alpha\omega} \sinh \alpha t_c \sin \omega t_o + \cosh \alpha t_c \cos \omega t_o + \cosh \alpha(t_c + t_o) = 0 \quad (45)$$

For a purely inductive load ( $R_T \rightarrow 0$ ) the equation reduces to

$$\frac{1}{2} \omega t_c = \cot(\frac{1}{2} \omega t_o) \quad (46)$$

where  $\omega^2 = 1/L_T C_b$ .

The r.m.s. load current in the general case may be deduced as follows. The quantity of electricity flowing from the source voltage  $V$  in a half-cycle is given by

$$\int_0^{t_c} i dt = \frac{V t_c}{R_T} - \frac{L_T}{R_T} (i_c + i_o)$$

The power input is this quantity multiplied by  $V/(t_c + t_o)$  and may be equated to  $R_T I_{2R}^2$ . Substitution of the values of  $i_c$  and  $i_o$  yields an expression for  $I_{2R}$  which is most conveniently written

$$I_{2R} = g \frac{V}{2\pi f L_T} \quad (47)$$

where  $g$  is given by

$$g^2 = 4\pi^2 \left( \frac{f L_T}{R_T} \right)^2 \frac{t_c}{t_c + t_o} \left[ 1 - \frac{2\omega}{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2) t_c} \frac{\cosh \alpha t_o + \cos \omega t_o}{\sin \omega t_o} \right] \quad (48)$$

For a purely inductive load, eqn. (45) reduces to

$$g^2 = 2\pi^2 [f^2 L_T C_b + k_1^2 (3 - 2k_1)/12] \quad (49)$$

where  $f^2 L_T C_b$  is the function of  $k_1$  defined by eqn. (44) displayed graphically in Fig. 4(b).

## (11.3) Mean Rectified Voltage

## 11.3.1 Leakage Inductance Neglected.

The waveforms are illustrated in Fig. 10. Expressions for the capacitor voltage  $v$  during the intervals  $t_c$  and  $t_o$  respectively are

$$v = V - RI_2 - (V - RI_2 - v_o)e^{-t/CR} \quad (47)$$

$$v = v_c - I_2 t / C \quad (48)$$

The mean voltage across EF is

$$\frac{1}{t_c + t_o} \left[ V t_c + \frac{(v_c + v_o)t_o}{2} \right]$$

and this expression may be equated to  $V_2 + RI_2$ , since  $I_2$  is the mean current in R as well as in  $L_s$ . Substitution of the expressions for  $v_c$  and  $v_o$  derived by the insertion of the appropriate initial conditions in eqns. (47) and (48) yields the following expression for the mean rectified voltage:

$$V_2 = V - sRI_2 \quad (49)$$

$$s = 1 + \frac{t_o}{t_c + t_o} \left[ 1 + \frac{t_o}{2CR} \coth \left( \frac{t_c}{2CR} \right) \right] \quad (50)$$

thus the load characteristic is a straight line of slope  $sR$ .

For full-wave rectification  $t_o = (1 - 2k)/2f$  and for half-wave rectification  $t_o = (1 - k)/f$ . For either circuit  $t_c = k/f$ .

## 11.3.2 Leakage Inductance considered.

The instantaneous capacitor voltage during the interval  $t_c$  may now be written

$$v = V - RI_2 + Ge^{m_1 t} + Ke^{m_2 t} \quad (51)$$

$$m = -\frac{R}{2L} \pm \sqrt{\left( \frac{R}{2L} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{LC}}$$

By integration of  $v$  over a cycle it may be shown that eqn. (49) again applies but that  $s$  is now given by

$$s = 1 - \frac{t_o}{t_c + t_o} \frac{t_o}{2CR} + \frac{L}{R(t_c + t_o)} \frac{(m_1 - m_2)(1 - E_1 - m_1 t_o)(1 - E_2 - m_2 t_o)}{m_1(1 - E_2) - m_2(1 - E_1)} \quad (52)$$

where  $E_1 = e^{m_1 t_c}$  and  $E_2 = e^{m_2 t_c}$ .

The corresponding expression for oscillatory conditions is

$$s = 1 - \frac{t_o}{t_c + t_o} \frac{t_o}{2CR} - \frac{\omega}{2\alpha(t_c + t_o)} \frac{(1 - e^{\alpha t_c} \cos \omega t_c - \alpha t_o)^2 + (e^{\alpha t_c} \sin \omega t_c + \omega t_o)^2}{\omega(1 - e^{\alpha t_c} \cos \omega t_c) + \alpha e^{\alpha t_c} \sin \omega t_c} \quad (53)$$

where  $\alpha = -R/2L$  and  $\omega^2 = 1/LC - (R/2L)^2$ .

By allowing the value of  $C$  in eqn. (52) to increase indefinitely it can be shown that for large reservoir capacitance the expression for  $s$  simplifies to

$$s = \frac{t_c + t_o}{t_c} \left[ 1 - \frac{L}{Rt_c} (1 - e^{-Rt_c/L}) \right]^{-1} \quad (54)$$

## (11.4) Harmonic Analysis of Ripple Voltage

The voltage across EF in the equivalent circuit of Fig. 10(a) shown in Fig. 10(b). In Fig. 22 it is redrawn as a function of the angle  $\theta$  such that the period of one cycle is  $2\pi$  instead of

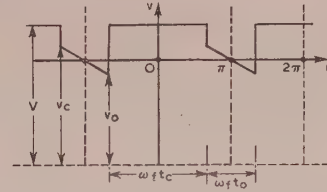


Fig. 22.—Voltage waveform across EF of Fig. 10 as function of  $\theta$ .

$t_c + t_o$ . The contacts are closed for an angle  $\omega_f t_c$  and open for  $\omega_f t_o$ , where  $\omega_f = 2\pi/(t_c + t_o)$ .

The ripple voltage across EF may be expressed in the form of the Fourier series

$$v = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} S_q \sin q\theta + \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} Q_q \cos q\theta \quad (55)$$

where the voltage and  $\theta$  axes are placed as in Fig. 22 and the coefficients are defined by

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \pi S_q &= \int_0^{2\pi} v \sin q\theta d\theta \\ \pi Q_q &= \int_0^{2\pi} v \cos q\theta d\theta \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (56)$$

Employing the expressions for  $v_c$  and  $v_o$  derived during the calculation of the mean rectified voltage, it may be shown that

$$\begin{aligned} S_q &= -\frac{v_c - v_o}{\pi \omega_f t_o} \int_{\frac{1}{2}\omega_f t_c}^{2\pi - \frac{1}{2}\omega_f t_c} (\theta - \pi) \sin q\theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{I_2 t_o}{\pi q C} \left( \cos \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} + \frac{2}{q\omega_f t_o} \sin \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} \right) \quad (57) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} Q_q &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\omega_f t_c} \left( V - \frac{v_c + v_o}{2} \right) \cos q\theta d\theta \\ &= \frac{2RI_2}{\pi q} \left( 1 + \frac{t_o}{2CR} \coth \frac{t_c}{2CR} \right) \sin \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} \quad (58) \end{aligned}$$

Between EF and the reservoir capacitor  $C$  the  $q$ th harmonic is attenuated in the ratio  $\sqrt{[1 + (q\omega_f CR)^2]}$ , so that the  $q$ th ripple harmonic (r.m.s. value) across  $C$  is the vector sum of the quadrature components,

$$\frac{S_q}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{[1 + (q\omega_f CR)^2]}} \text{ and } \frac{Q_q}{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{[1 + (q\omega_f CR)^2]}}$$

Finally, each of these components may be expressed as a fraction of the peak-to-peak ripple voltage  $\hat{V}_r$  by means of the ripple factors  $r_{sq}$  and  $r_{cq}$ . The total  $q$ th harmonic (r.m.s. value) is then given by  $r_q \hat{V}_r$ , where

$$r_q = \sqrt{(r_{sq}^2 + r_{cq}^2)} \quad (59)$$

It may be deduced from eqns. (57) and (58) that the component ripple factors are given by

$$r_{sq} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2\pi q \sqrt{[1 + (q\omega_f CR)^2]}} \left( \cos \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} + \frac{2}{q\omega_f t_o} \sin \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} \right) \quad (60)$$

and

$$r_{cq} = \frac{\sqrt{2}CR}{\pi q t_o \sqrt{[1 + (q\omega_f CR)^2]}} \left( 1 + \frac{t_o}{2CR} \coth \frac{t_c}{2CR} \right) \sin \frac{q\omega_f t_c}{2} \quad (61)$$



## (11.5) D.C. Outputs with Contact Unloading

## (11.5.1) Equation for Contact Unloading.

Contact unloading can be achieved only if the circuit is oscillatory, i.e. if  $(R/2L)^2 < 1/LC$ . During the interval  $t_c$  the current flowing in the contacts and the voltage across the reservoir capacitor may be written

$$i = I_2 + I_2 e^{\alpha t} (G \sin \omega t - \cos \omega t) \quad (62)$$

$$v = V - RI_2 + LI_2 e^{\alpha t}$$

$$[G(\alpha \sin \omega t - \omega \cos \omega t) - \alpha \cos \omega t - \omega \sin \omega t] \quad (63)$$

where  $\alpha = -R/2L$  and  $\omega^2 = 1/LC - (R/2L)^2$ . The discharge of the capacitor in the succeeding interval  $t_o$  follows the same relation as in the non-inductive case [eqn. (48)]. Insertion of all the boundary conditions establishes the following relation between the parameters for contact unloading,

$$\frac{(\alpha^2 + \omega^2)t_o \sin \omega t_c}{2\omega} - \cos \omega t_c + \cosh \alpha t_c = 0 \quad (64)$$

The expression for  $G$  is

$$G = -\frac{1 - e^{\alpha t_c} \cos \omega t_c}{e^{\alpha t_c} \sin \omega t_c} \quad (65)$$

In the limiting case of zero resistance ( $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ) eqn. (64) simplifies to

$$\frac{1}{2}\omega t_o = -\tan \frac{1}{2}\omega t_c \quad (66)$$

where  $\omega^2 = 1/LC$ .

## (11.5.2) Mean Rectified Voltage.

The same output characteristic as before (Section 11.3.2) again applies, but the multiplying factor  $s$  is now given by

$$s = 1 + \frac{t_o}{2(t_c + t_o)} \left(1 - \frac{\omega \sinh \alpha t_c}{\alpha \sin \omega t_c}\right) \quad (67)$$

For zero resistance the corresponding formula is

$$s = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{t_c(\omega t_o)^2}{8(t_c + t_o)} \quad (68)$$

where  $\omega^2 = 1/LC$ .

## (11.5.3) Peak Ripple, Voltage-Doubling Circuit.

When the total instantaneous voltage across the two capacitors is a minimum or a maximum, one capacitor is charging at the same rate as the other is discharging. Thus each capacitor carries a current  $I_2$  and the transformer at this instant is therefore supplying a current  $2I_2$ . Let the minimum and maximum voltages occur when  $\omega t$  takes the values  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  respectively, time being measured from the beginning of the interval  $t_c$ . Then from eqn. (62) it follows that  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  are given by the solution of the equation

$$e^{\alpha \psi / \omega} (G \sin \psi - \cos \psi) = 1 \quad (69)$$

where  $G$  is given by eqn. (65).

It may be shown that during the interval from  $\psi_1$  to  $\psi_2$  the total voltage rises by

$$\hat{V}'_r = \omega LI_2 \left[ \cot(\psi_1 - \gamma) + \tan\left(\psi_2 - \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma\right) \right] - I_2(\psi_2 - \psi_1) \quad (70)$$

where  $\tan \gamma = 1/G$ , and this therefore is the peak-to-peak ripple. Alternatively it may be expressed as follows, as a fraction of the ripple  $\hat{V}_r$  for a non-inductive circuit,

$$\frac{\hat{V}'_r}{\hat{V}_r} = \frac{t_c}{t_o - t_c} \left\{ \frac{\omega t_c}{(\alpha t_c)^2 + (\omega t_c)^2} \left[ \cot(\psi_1 - \gamma) + \tan\left(\psi_2 - \frac{\pi}{2} - \gamma\right) \right] - \frac{\psi_2 - \psi_1}{\omega t_c} \right\} \quad (71)$$

In the limiting case  $R \rightarrow 0$  this expression simplifies to

$$\frac{\hat{V}'_r}{\hat{V}_r} = \frac{1 - 2\pi\sqrt{f^2 LC}}{1 - 2k} \quad (72)$$

# A NOTE ON TIME SERIES AND THE USE OF JUMP FUNCTIONS IN APPROXIMATE ANALYSIS

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## SUMMARY

The behaviour of filters having jump-function inputs is investigated. The output of the filter is approximated by a jump function, and the ratio between the Laplace transforms of the two jump functions defines the jump-transfer function of the filter. A serial operator for the filter can then be written down, and approximate analysis carried out using time series. A method of deriving a serial number for any time function having an analytical form is stated. Tables are given showing the jump-transfer function and serial operator for commonly occurring filters, and a comparison is made with the method due to Tustin of calculating approximate responses. A high degree of mathematical rigour has not been aimed at in the treatment.

## LIST OF PRINCIPAL SYMBOLS

- $f(t)$ : Time function, having zero or non-zero initial value.  
 $f(t) = 0, t < 0$ .  
 $P(t)$ : Rectangular pulse, height unity, width  $\tau$ , starting at  $t = 0$ .  
 $\bar{P}(p) = \frac{1 - e^{-p\tau}}{p}$ , Laplace transform of  $P(t)$ .  
 $f_n = f(n\tau)$ , ordinate of  $f(t)$  at  $t = n\tau, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .  
 $\int f(t)$ : Jump function of  $f(t)$ ;  $\int f(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n P(t - n\tau)$ .  
 $u(t)$ : Response of a filter to  $P(t)$ .  
 $H(t)$ : Heaviside unit step function.  
 $A(t)$ : Response of a filter to  $H(t)$ .  
 $z = e^{p\tau}$ .  
 $p$ : Complex number.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

The method, due to Tustin,<sup>1</sup> of analysing linear systems in terms of time series is particularly applicable when either the response to an arbitrary input, not representable in analytical form, is required, or when it is necessary to calculate the responses to any inputs, arbitrary or otherwise, of systems whose performance requires to be estimated from experimental tests. Such calculations are made by the expression of any time function by a series of numbers representing, in one method, the ordinates of that function at equal intervals, these being so chosen that a reasonable approximation of the time function is obtained; the effect of any system when subjected to an input so expressed is assessed by the serial operator for the particular system in question. The various methods of representing time functions by ordinates ( $\Delta$ -units), step functions and rectangular pulse units are dealt with by Tustin. The serial operator for any particular system is shown to be obtained either from a known test input and the output it produces, or by the substitution  $p = \frac{2}{\delta} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$  in the known transfer function of the system.

Brown<sup>2</sup> has described the application of finite-difference

operators to linear systems and has shown in this connection that the operator  $p = \frac{2}{\delta} \frac{(1 - E^{-1})}{(1 + E^{-1})}$ , whose time series equivalent  $\frac{2}{\delta} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$  was simply deduced by Tustin, is only one, and indeed the simplest, of a series of quotients of polynomials in  $E^{-1}$  which express the differential operator  $p$  to any desired degree of accuracy. More recently Barker<sup>3</sup> has drawn attention to the pulse-transfer function  $W(z)$  of a filter, whose input and output are sequences of impulse functions, and has shown its application to sampling servo-systems. The material of this note relates to the transfer functions of filters whose inputs and outputs are jump functions. A jump-transfer function (j.t.f.) is derived, being very similar to the pulse-transfer function (p.t.f.) of the filter, and by means of the j.t.f. a serial operator for the filter is obtained. Likewise, the Laplace transform of a jump function may be used to derive, for a continuous time function of known analytical form, a serial number which is a quotient of two finite serial numbers, rather than an indefinite sequence of numbers representing the ordinates. Simple calculations are given to illustrate the method.

## (2) THE JUMP-TRANSFER FUNCTION

### (2.1) Basis

Consider the filter shown in Fig. 1, having the jump-function input  $\int f(t)$ .\*  $Y(p)$  is the transfer function of the filter and the

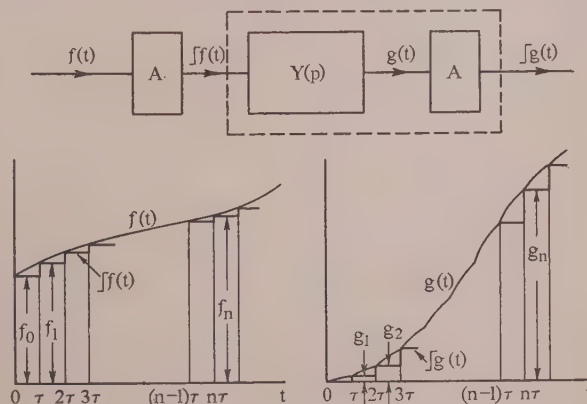


Fig. 1.—Filter with jump-function input.

boxes A are devices converting the continuous functions  $f(t)$ ,  $g(t)$  into the jump functions  $\int f(t)$  and  $\int g(t)$ . The true output,  $g(t)$ , of the filter may not, however, have a continuous first derivative. It is desired to formulate the transfer function relating the Laplace transform of  $\int g(t)$  to that of  $\int f(t)$ .

\* The notation used for jump functions is that of Gardner and Barnes.<sup>4</sup>

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Let  $\bar{P}(p)$  be the Laplace transform of the rectangular pulse  $P(t)$  of unit height and duration  $\tau$ , starting at  $t = 0$ , i.e.  $\bar{P}(p) = (1 - e^{-\tau p})/p$ . Then the transform of  $\int f(t)$  is  $\sum_0^\infty f_n \varepsilon^{-n\tau p} \bar{P}(p)$ . Now let  $u(t)$  be the response of  $Y(p)$  to the unit pulse  $P(t)$ .

Then

$$g(t) = f_0 u(t) + f_1 u(t - \tau) + \dots = \sum_0^\infty f_n u(t - n\tau)$$

and  $g(0) = f_0 u(0)$ ,  $g(\tau) = f_0 u(\tau) + f_1 u(0)$ , etc.

If the ordinates of  $u(t)$  at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots, n\tau$  are denoted by  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ , then

$$g_n = f_0 u_n + f_1 u_{n-1} + f_2 u_{n-2} + \dots + f_n u_0$$

Hence  $\int g(t) = f_0 u_0 P(t) + (f_0 u_1 + f_1 u_0) P(t - \tau) + \dots + (f_0 u_n + f_1 u_{n-1} + \dots + f_n u_0) P(t - n\tau)$

and the transform of  $\int g(t)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{P}(p) [f_0 u_0 + (f_0 u_1 + f_1 u_0) \varepsilon^{-\tau p} + \dots \\ + (f_0 u_n + f_1 u_{n-1} + \dots + f_n u_0) \varepsilon^{-n\tau p} + \dots] \\ = \sum_0^\infty u_n \varepsilon^{-n\tau p} \sum_0^\infty f_n \varepsilon^{-n\tau p} \bar{P}(p) \end{aligned}$$

If  $z = \varepsilon^{\tau p}$ , then the ratio [transform of  $\int g(t)$ ]/[transform of  $\int f(t)$ ] is given by  $U(z) = \sum_0^\infty u_n z^{-n}$ .

$U(z)$  will be termed the jump-transfer function, denoted by j.t.f. for brevity. It is formally identical with the pulse-transfer function, see Barker,<sup>3</sup> given by  $\sum_0^\infty w_n z^{-n}$ . In the case of the j.t.f., the  $u_n$  are the ordinates of the response to a rectangular pulse of finite height unity and duration  $\tau$ . In the case of the p.t.f., the  $w_n$  are the ordinates of the response to an impulse of finite area unity and infinitesimal duration.

## (2.2) The Jump-Transfer Function of Common Filters

The jump-transfer function corresponding to the filter  $Y(p) = 1/(p + \alpha)$  is deduced below for the purposes of illustration. It is necessary to find  $u_n$ , the sequence of ordinates representing the response to a unit rectangular pulse. This may be obtained by writing  $u_0 = A_0$ ,  $u_n = A_n - A_{n-1}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , where  $A_n$  is the sequence of ordinates representing the response to a unit step.

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_0^\infty u_n z^{-n} &= A_0 + (A_1 - A_0)z^{-1} + (A_2 - A_1)z^{-2} + \dots \\ &+ (A_n - A_{n-1})z^{-n} + \dots = (1 - z^{-1}) \sum_0^\infty A_n z^{-n} \end{aligned}$$

In this case  $A(t) = (1 - e^{-\alpha t})/\alpha$  and at  $t = n\tau$ ,  $A_n = (1 - d^n)/\alpha$  where  $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$ . Also  $A_0 = 0$ . The j.t.f. is therefore  $(1 - d)z^{-1}/\alpha(1 - dz^{-1})$ . This procedure may be repeated for other commonly occurring filters. Table 1 summarizes the results obtained. For all of the transfer functions given,  $u(t)$  is zero at  $t = 0$  and therefore the j.t.f.  $\sum_0^\infty u_n z^{-n}$  reduces to  $\sum_1^\infty u_n z^{-n}$ . More complex transfer functions than those given may be split up into simpler ones by the use of partial fractions, and if desired, the overall j.t.f. may then be formed by summation.

## (2.3) Filter with Finite Time-Delay

If a finite time-delay is added to a filter having the transfer function  $Y(p)$ , the resultant transfer function becomes  $\varepsilon^{-\beta\tau p} Y(p)$ ,

where  $\beta\tau$  is the finite delay inserted. The same holds for the j.t.f., which becomes  $z^{-\beta} \sum_0^\infty u_n z^{-n}$ . The effect of the delay can also be written in terms of the ordinates of the response to the unit pulse, the response now occurring  $\beta\tau$  later in time. If  $\beta$  is an integer, then the response is zero up to  $t = \beta\tau$ , and for  $t = \beta\tau$  the ordinate of the response is  $u_{n-\beta}$ , where  $u(t)$  is the response of the original filter without finite time-delay. The j.t.f. of the filter with delay is therefore  $\sum_{n=\beta}^\infty u_{n-\beta} z^{-n}$ .

If  $\beta$  is a fraction of the interval  $\tau$  an analogous result holds. Let  $\beta$  be the fraction  $(1 - m)$  of  $\tau$ . Then at  $t = \tau, 2\tau, 3\tau, \dots, m\tau$  the ordinate of the delayed response is  $u(m\tau)$ ,  $u(\tau + m\tau)$ ,  $u(2\tau + m\tau), \dots, u(n - 1\tau + m\tau)$ . The j.t.f. is therefore  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty u_{n+m-1} z^{-n} = z^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^\infty u_{n+m} z^{-n}$ .

## (2.4) Laplace Transforms of Jump Functions

For either the exact analysis of systems in which jump functions are the variables or, as will be shown later, the approximate analysis of systems having continuous variables, the Laplace transforms of jump functions may be used. Table 2 therefore shows the Laplace transforms of common jump-functions. These may be deduced in an elementary manner using the definition of the Laplace transform or by means of theorems of transform theory (see Gardner and Barnes<sup>4</sup>).

The inverse process of finding a jump function given its Laplace transform leads, as shown in Section 3, to the concept of serial numbers or time series, and also the concept of serial multiplication.

## (3) TIME SERIES AND THE USE OF JUMP FUNCTIONS IN APPROXIMATE ANALYSIS

### (3.1) Inverse Laplace Transformation of Jump Functions: Serial Numbers

The inverse process of obtaining a jump function from its Laplace transform may be done in several ways. First, the transform may represent a known jump-function or be capable of breaking up, by the process of partial fractions, into a number of recognizable jump-function transforms. This being an elementary method employed in normal transform theory, it will not be discussed further.

A second approach is to expand the transform as a series in  $z^{-1}$ . To take an example, consider the Laplace transform  $\tau \bar{P}(p) \frac{z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$ . Expansion gives

$$\tau \bar{P}(p) z^{-1} [1 + 2z^{-1} + 3z^{-2} + \dots + nz^{-(n-1)} + \dots]$$

$$\text{i.e. } \tau [z^{-1} \bar{P}(p) + 2z^{-2} \bar{P}(p) + \dots + nz^{-n} \bar{P}(p) + \dots],$$

which is the Laplace transform of

$$\tau [P(t - \tau) + 2P(t - 2\tau) + \dots + nP(t - n\tau) + \dots]$$

$P(t)$  being the unit rectangular pulse of duration  $\tau$ , starting at  $t = 0$ . This gives the required jump-function, in this case  $\int$ . The series may be obtained by simple division of the polynomial in  $z^{-1}$  in the numerator and denominator, if the latter is not the sum of a recognizable series.

It is also evident that the jump function  $\int t$  may be described by its ordinate heights at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots$ , etc. This gives, in this case, the sequence  $\tau[0, 1, 2, \dots]$ , which is referred to as a serial number or time-series. In this sense, the power of  $z^{-1}$

Table 1  
ELEMENTARY JUMP-TRANSFER FUNCTIONS

Transfer function	Ordinate of $u(t)$ at $t = n\tau$ , $n \geq 1$ ; $u_0 = 0$	Jump-transfer function
$Y(p)$	$u_n$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n z^{-n}$ , $z = e^{\tau p}$
$\frac{1}{p}$	$\tau$	$\frac{\tau z^{-1}}{1 - z^{-1}}$
$\frac{1}{p^2}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{2!}(2n-1)$	$\frac{\tau^2}{2!} \frac{(1+z^{-1})z^{-1}}{(1-z^{-1})^2}$
$\frac{1}{p^3}$	$\frac{\tau^3}{3!}(3n^2-3n+1)$	$\frac{\tau^3}{3!} \frac{(1+4z^{-1}+z^{-2})z^{-1}}{(1-z^{-1})^3}$
$\frac{1}{p^r}$	$\frac{\tau^r}{r!}[n^r - (n-1)^r]$	$\frac{\tau^r}{r!} \frac{S_r(z^{-1})}{(1-z^{-1})^r}$
$\frac{1}{p + \alpha}$	$\frac{d^{n-1}}{\alpha}(1-d)$ , $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$	$\frac{1-d}{\alpha} \frac{z^{-1}}{(1-dz^{-1})}$
$\frac{1}{(p + \alpha)^r}$	$d^{n-1} \sum_{q=0}^{r-1} \frac{\tau^q (n-1)^q}{\alpha^{r-q} q!} - d^n \sum_{q=0}^{r-1} \frac{\tau^q n^q}{\alpha^{r-q} q!}$	$\frac{z^{-1}}{\alpha^r} - \sum_{q=0}^{r-1} \frac{\tau^q (1-z^{-1})}{\alpha^{r-q} q!} \frac{S_q(dz^{-1})}{(1-dz^{-1})^{q+1}}$
$\frac{1}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{1}{\omega^2} [\cos \omega(n-1)\tau - \cos \omega n\tau]$	$\frac{(1 - \cos \omega\tau)}{\omega^2} \frac{(1+z^{-1})z^{-1}}{(1-2z^{-1} \cos \omega\tau + z^{-2})}$
$\frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{1}{\omega} [\sin \omega n\tau - \sin \omega(n-1)\tau]$	$\frac{\sin \omega\tau}{\omega} \frac{(1-z^{-1})z^{-1}}{(1-2z^{-1} \cos \omega\tau + z^{-2})}$
$\frac{1}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{1}{\omega r} \{d^{n-1} \sin [\omega(n-1)\tau + \phi] - d^n \sin [\omega n\tau + \phi]\}$ $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$ , $\tan \phi = \frac{\omega}{\alpha}$ , $r = (\alpha^2 + \omega^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$\frac{Az^{-1} + Bz^{-2}}{\omega r^2 (1 - 2dz^{-1} \cos \omega\tau + d^2 z^{-2})}$ $A = \omega - \omega d \cos \omega\tau - \alpha d \sin \omega\tau$ $B = \omega d^2 - \omega d \cos \omega\tau + \alpha d \sin \omega\tau$
$\frac{p + \alpha}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{1}{r} \{d^{n-1} \cos [\omega(n-1)\tau + \phi] - d^n \cos [\omega n\tau + \phi]\}$	$\frac{Cz^{-1} + Dz^{-2}}{r^2 (1 - 2dz^{-1} \cos \omega\tau + d^2 z^{-2})}$ $C = \alpha - \alpha d \cos \omega\tau + \omega d \sin \omega\tau$ $D = \alpha d^2 - \alpha d \cos \omega\tau - \omega d \sin \omega\tau$
$e^{-\beta\tau p} Y(p)$ $\beta$ an integer	$u_{n-\beta}$	$z^{-\beta} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} u_k z^{-k} = \sum_{n=\beta}^{\infty} u_{n-\beta} z^{-n}$
$e^{-\beta\tau p} Y(p)$ $\beta$ fractional equal to $(1-m)$	$u_{n+m-1}$	$z^{-\beta} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} u_k z^{-k} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_{n+m-1} z^{-n}$

$$* S_q(dz^{-1}) = q! dz^{-1} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1-dz^{-1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2!} & 1 & 1-dz^{-1} & \dots & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3!} & \frac{1}{2!} & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{1}{q!} & \frac{1}{(q-1)!} & \frac{1}{(q-2)!} & \dots & 1 \end{vmatrix}.$$

\* See Reference 5.



Table 2

LAPLACE TRANSFORMS OF COMMON JUMP-FUNCTIONS: SERIAL NUMBERS

$$\int f(t) = \sum_0^{\infty} f_n P(t - n\tau), f_n = f(n\tau)$$

Time function	Laplace transform	Jump function	Laplace transform	Serial number for time function
$P(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) = \frac{1 - e^{-\tau p}}{p}$			[1]
$f(t)H(t)$	$\bar{f}(p)$	$\int f(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \sum_0^{\infty} f_n z^{-n}, z = e^{\tau p}$	$[f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots]$
$AH(t)$	$\frac{A}{p}$	$\int AH(t)$	$A\bar{P}(p) \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1}}$	$A \frac{[1]}{[1, -1]}$
$tH(t)$	$\frac{1}{p^2}$	$\int tH(t)$	$\tau \bar{P}(p) \frac{z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$	$\tau \frac{[0, 1]}{[1, -1]^2}$
$\frac{t^2}{2!}H(t)$	$\frac{1}{p^3}$	$\int \frac{t^2}{2!}H(t)$	$\frac{\tau^2}{2!} \bar{P}(p) \frac{(1 + z^{-1})z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^3}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{2!} \frac{[1, 1][0, 1]}{[1, -1]^3}$
$\frac{t^3}{3!}H(t)$	$\frac{1}{p^4}$	$\int \frac{t^3}{3!}H(t)$	$\frac{\tau^3}{3!} \bar{P}(p) \frac{(1 + 4z^{-1} + z^{-2})z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^4}$	$\frac{\tau^3}{3!} \frac{[1, 4, 1][0, 1]}{[1, -1]^4}$
$e^{-\alpha t}H(t)$	$\frac{1}{p + \alpha}$	$\int e^{-\alpha t}H(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \frac{1}{1 - dz^{-1}}, d = e^{-\alpha \tau}$	$\frac{[1]}{[1, -d]}$
$te^{-\alpha t}H(t)$	$\frac{1}{(p + \alpha)^2}$	$\int te^{-\alpha t}H(t)$	$\tau \bar{P}(p) \frac{dz^{-1}}{(1 - dz^{-1})^2}$	$\tau \frac{[0, d]}{[1, -d]^2}$
$(\sin \omega t)H(t)$	$\frac{\omega}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\int (\sin \omega t)H(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \frac{z^{-1} \sin \omega \tau}{1 - 2z^{-1} \cos \omega \tau + z^{-2}}$	$\frac{[0, \sin \omega \tau]}{[1, -2 \cos \omega \tau, 1]}$
$(\cos \omega t)H(t)$	$\frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\int (\cos \omega t)H(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \frac{(1 - z^{-1} \cos \omega \tau)}{1 - 2z^{-1} \cos \omega \tau + z^{-2}}$	$\frac{[1, -\cos \omega \tau]}{[1, -2 \cos \omega \tau, 1]}$
$(e^{-\alpha t} \sin \omega t)H(t)$	$\frac{\omega}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\int (e^{-\alpha t} \sin \omega t)H(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \frac{dz^{-1} \sin \omega \tau}{1 - 2dz^{-1} \cos \omega \tau + d^2 z^{-2}}, d = e^{-\alpha \tau}$	$\frac{[0, d \sin \omega \tau]}{[1, -2d \cos \omega \tau, d^2]}$
$(e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t)H(t)$	$\frac{p + \alpha}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\int (e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t)H(t)$	$\bar{P}(p) \frac{(1 - dz^{-1} \cos \omega \tau)}{1 - 2dz^{-1} \cos \omega \tau + d^2 z^{-2}}$	$\frac{[1, -d \cos \omega \tau]}{[1, -2d \cos \omega \tau, d^2]}$

may simply be regarded as locating the position of the ordinate along the time axis. Hence the jump function is also adequately described by its original transform, the  $z^{-1}$  and  $\bar{P}(p)$  being omitted. That is,  $\tau[0, 1, 2 \dots] = \frac{\tau[0, 1]}{[1, -1]^2} = \frac{\tau[0, 1]}{[1, -2, 1]}$  the

rule for evaluating  $[1, -1]^2$  being the same as that for evaluating  $(1 - z^{-1})^2$ , namely multiplication of polynomials, as stated by Tustin.

This derivation of a serial number for a time function from the Laplace transform of the corresponding jump-function now makes possible the expression of the serial number in "closed form" rather than the straightforward ordinate sequence which, of course, may always be written down. Alternatively, it may be regarded as a summing process for ordinate sequences which are not otherwise recognizable. For example, the serial number (ordinates at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau \dots$ ) for  $e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t$  is  $[1, e^{-\alpha \tau} \cos \omega \tau, e^{-2\alpha \tau} \cos 2\omega \tau, \dots] = [1, d \cos \omega \tau, d^2 \cos^2 \omega \tau, \dots]$  where  $d = e^{-\alpha \tau}$ . This may be summed as it stands but it is also given by the Laplace transform of  $\int e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t$ , omitting powers of  $z^{-1}$ , which are regarded as locating marks in the time axis, and leaving out  $\bar{P}(p)$ . Thus the serial number for

$e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t$  is  $\frac{[1, -d \cos \omega \tau]}{[1, -2d \cos \omega \tau, d^2]}$ . Similarly the serial number for  $\cos \omega t$  is  $\frac{[1, -\cos \omega \tau]}{[1, -2 \cos \omega \tau, 1]}$

This also leads to the important effect which damping has on the serial number for, say,  $\cos \omega t$ . Referring to Table 2, if  $C(z^{-1})\bar{P}(p)$  is the transform of  $\int \cos \omega t$ , then  $C(dz^{-1})\bar{P}(p)$  is the transform of  $\int e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega t$ ; that is,  $dz^{-1}$  replaces  $z^{-1}$  exclusive of the part  $\bar{P}(p)$ . The effect on the serial numbers, as can be seen from the examples, is to change the ordinates from  $f_n$  to  $d^n f_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , whether the numbers are infinite sequences or quotients of finite sequences.

A third method of evaluating the transforms of a jump function is to consider it as the product of two simpler transforms representing known jump-functions. Use is then made of the theorem regarding the transform of the convolution of two time functions.

For a simple example consider the transform  $\tau \bar{P}(p) \frac{z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$ . Let  $\bar{x}_1(p) = \frac{\bar{P}(p)}{1 - z^{-1}}$ , which represents the transform of the unit

step. Let  $\bar{x}_2(p) = \frac{z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})} = z^{-1} + z^{-2} + z^{-3} + \dots$ . Then  $\bar{x}_2(p)$  is the transform of  $\delta(t - \tau) + \delta(t - 2\tau) + \delta(t - 3\tau) \dots$ ,  $\delta(t)$  being the unit impulse, whose transform is unity. According to the convolution theorem,\* therefore,  $\bar{x}_1(p)\bar{x}_2(p)$  is the trans-

form of  $\int_0^t x_2(\lambda)x_1(t - \lambda)d\lambda$ . The result of the integration is

\* See Reference 4, p. 228.

$x_1(t - \tau) + x_1(t - 2\tau) + \dots = y(t)$ , say, which gives the sequence  $[y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots] = [0, 1, 2, 3, \dots]$ . It may be verified that this is the sequence resulting from multiplication of  $(z^{-1} + z^{-2} + z^{-3} + \dots)$  by  $(1 + z^{-1} + z^{-2} + \dots)$ , which represents the unit step. Serial multiplication of sequences can therefore be looked upon as a numerical convolution process.

### (3.2) Use of Jump-Transfer Function in Approximate Analysis

There are two obvious methods whereby a jump function may be used to approximate a continuous function. The first approximation is one in which the heights of the rectangular pulses are the averages of the two adjacent ordinates of the curve marking the beginning and end of the rectangular pulse in question. The second method is that in which the heights of the rectangular pulses are given by the ordinates of the curve at the mid-points of the pulses. In the paper, more consideration is given to the first method, which in fact amounts to calculation in terms of the ordinates at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots$ , etc. It is desired, therefore, in the first place, to derive from the j.t.f. a serial operator which is the ratio of the serial numbers of the output and input when these are the simple ordinate sequences.

Consider Fig. 2 in which the input  $f(t)$  to a filter is approxi-

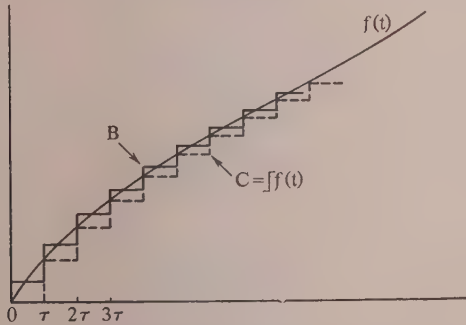


Fig. 2.—Approximation of curve by jump function.

mated by the jump function  $B$ , having the Laplace transform  $\bar{B}(z)$ . If  $U(z)$  is the j.t.f. for the filter, the jump function whose pulse heights are equal to the ordinates of the output at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots$ , etc., has the transform  $U(z)\bar{B}(z) = \bar{D}(z)$ , say. But  $\bar{B}(z) = \frac{1}{2}(1+z)\bar{C}(z)$  where  $\bar{C}(z)$  is the transform of the jump function whose pulse heights are equal to the ordinates of  $f(t)$  at  $t = 0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots$ , etc. The serial operator for the filter, equal to the ratio (serial number of output)/(serial number of input), is therefore given by  $\bar{D}(z)/\bar{C}(z) = \frac{1}{2}(1+z)U(z)$ , omitting all powers of  $z^{-1}$ . For example, consider the transfer function  $\alpha/(p + \alpha)$  which has the j.t.f.  $(1-d)z^{-1}/(1-dz^{-1})$ . The serial operator is obtained from  $\frac{1}{2}(1+z)U(z)$  when the powers of  $z^{-1}$  are regarded as locating points on the time axis and are now omitted. This gives the serial operator  $\frac{1}{2}(1-d)[1, 1]/[1, -d]$  the value of  $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$  depending on the value of  $\tau$  adopted. If  $\tau$  equals one-fifth of the time-constant  $1/\alpha$ , then  $d = 0.8187$  and the serial operator is  $0.0906[1, 1]/[1, -0.8187]$ . If the input is a ramp function, say, then its serial number is  $\tau[0, 1, 2, 3, \dots]$  and the output is  $0.0906\tau[0, 1, 2, 3, \dots] \times [1, 1]/[1, -0.8187]$ . Evaluating gives  $\tau[0, 0.091, 0.347, 0.737, 1.24, 1.83, 2.5, 3.22, 4.0, \dots]$  compared with the exact solution  $\tau[0, 0.093, 0.351, 0.744, 1.246, 1.84, 2.51, \dots]$ .

To summarize, therefore, the procedure of approximate analysis, the steps are: (a) Derive the serial operator for the particular transfer function; this is obtained from  $\frac{1}{2}(1+z)$  times the selected j.t.f. from Table 1, bearing in mind that more

complex transfer functions have j.t.f.'s which may be built up from the simple ones listed.

(b) Multiply the serial operator by the serial number representing the input; this may take the form either of the ordinate heights at  $0, \tau, 2\tau, \dots$ , etc., or of a quotient of two finite serial numbers, as given by Table 2.

(c) Evaluate the serial product so obtained by division, multiplication or otherwise

The above procedure will hold in calculating the responses only to inputs which have a zero initial value. That this should be so is evident if it is remembered that the transform of the jump-function approximation\* to a function  $f(t)$  is

$$\frac{1}{2}\{[1+z][\text{transform of } f(t)] - z f(0)\bar{P}(p)\}$$

Thus only when  $f(0) = 0$  may the factor  $\frac{1}{2}(1+z)$  be taken along with the j.t.f. in deriving a serial operator which is to be the quotient of the ordinate sequences of the output and input. The lack of generality does not, however, constitute any difficulty, for inputs with non-zero initial values may always be split up into a step function and an input with a zero initial value. In the case of a step function the question of approximate analysis does not arise, for the step function is the exact jump-function  $A[1, 1, 1, \dots]$ ,  $A$  being the height of the step. The serial operator for a step-function input is therefore the j.t.f. for the filter, omitting the powers of  $z^{-1}$  as before. For example, the output of the filter  $\alpha/(p + \alpha)$ , when subjected to the input  $(1+t)H(t)$ , and with  $\tau = 1/5\alpha$ , is

$$\begin{aligned} & \tau(1-d) \frac{[1, 1]}{[1, -d]} [0, 1, 2, 3, \dots] + (1-d) \frac{[0, 1]}{[1, -d]} [1, 1, 1, \dots] \\ &= \tau[0.091, 0.347, 0.737, 1.24, \dots] \\ & \quad + [0, 0.181, 0.329, 0.451, 0.550, \dots] \end{aligned}$$

It is not proposed to deal in detail with the second method of approximating a continuous function by means of a jump function, that is, where the pulse heights are equal to the ordinates of the function at  $t = \tau/2, 3\tau/2, \dots, (n + \frac{1}{2})\tau, \dots$ . The procedure is very similar to that of Section 2.1 and the results are formally

the same. Thus if a jump function  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} F_n P(t - n\tau)$  is applied to a filter and the output  $G(t)$  is approximated by the jump function  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_n P(t - n\tau)$ , where in this case  $G_n = G[(n + \frac{1}{2})\tau]$ , then the j.t.f. is still  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n z^{-n}$ , but here  $u_n = u[(n + \frac{1}{2})\tau]$ , i.e. the ordinate at  $t = (n + \frac{1}{2})\tau$  of the response of the filter to a unit pulse of width  $\tau$ .

The application to approximate analysis follows simply, for if  $F_n$  is now equal to  $F[(n + \frac{1}{2})\tau]$ , i.e. the second type of approximation to an actual input  $F(t)$ , the approximation is consistent for both input and output, and the serial operator is the j.t.f. omitting the powers of  $z^{-1}$  as before. This applies for any input. The j.t.f. for the filter is of course slightly different from that previously used, since  $u_n$  is now  $u[(n + \frac{1}{2})\tau]$  instead of  $u(n\tau)$ . For instance the j.t.f. for the filter  $1/(p + \alpha)$  is now

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{d^{\frac{1}{2}}(1 - z^{-1})}{\alpha(1 - dz^{-1})}$$

where  $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$ . This method introduces rather more complex j.t.f.'s than the first approach and it is not quite so convenient to work in terms of the ordinates at  $t = (n + \frac{1}{2})\tau$  as to use those at  $t = n\tau$ . The process does hold, however, for all inputs, whether their initial values are zero or not.

\* That is, pulse heights of jump functions are averages of ordinates on either side of pulse.



(3.3) Comparison with Method of Substituting  $p = \frac{2}{\tau} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$  in Transfer Function

The method used by Tustin to calculate approximate responses is to substitute  $p = \frac{2}{\tau} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$  in the transfer function of the system. This rule enables a serial operator to be obtained for a general form of the transfer function such as the quotient of two polynomials in  $p$ . Clearly this procedure is much simpler than breaking the transfer function up into simpler ones by a method of partial fractions and then obtaining a serial operator for each.

The comparison may also be made using the transfer function  $\alpha/(p + \alpha)$ , which gives the serial operator  $(1 - d)[1, 1]/2[1, -d]$  where  $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$ . Expanding in terms of  $\alpha\tau$ , using powers up to  $\alpha^3\tau^3$ , this may be written

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \alpha\tau - \frac{\alpha^2\tau^2}{2} + \frac{\alpha^3\tau^3}{6} \right) \frac{[1, 1]}{\left[ 1, - \left( 1 - \alpha\tau + \frac{\alpha^2\tau^2}{2} - \frac{\alpha^3\tau^3}{6} \right) \right]}$$

If the substitution  $p = \frac{2}{\tau} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$  is made in  $Y(p)$  and a similar

Table 3  
COMPARISON OF SERIAL OPERATORS

$Y(p)$	Serial operator using $p = \frac{2}{\tau} \frac{[1, -1]}{[1, 1]}$	Serial operator* using $\frac{(1+d)}{2}$ (jump-transfer function)
$\frac{1}{p}$	$\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{[1, 1]}{[1, -1]}$	$\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{[1, 1]}{[1, -1]}$
$\frac{1}{p^2}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{4} \frac{[1, 1]^2}{[1, -1]^2}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{4} \frac{[1, 1]^2}{[1, -1]^2}$
$\frac{1}{p^3}$	$\frac{\tau^3}{8} \frac{[1, 3, 3, 1]}{[1, -1]^3}$	$\frac{\tau^3}{12} \frac{[1, 5, 5, 1]}{[1, -1]^3}$
$\frac{1}{p + \alpha}$	$\frac{\tau}{2 + \alpha\tau} \frac{[1, 1]}{[1, -b]}, b = \frac{(2 - \alpha\tau)}{(2 + \alpha\tau)}$	$\frac{(1-d)}{\alpha} \frac{[1, 1]}{[1, -d]}, d = e^{-\alpha\tau}$
$\frac{1}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{4 + \omega^2\tau^2} \frac{[1, 1]^2}{[1, -2c, 1]}$ $c = (4 - \omega^2\tau^2)/(4 + \omega^2\tau^2)$	$\frac{(1 - \cos \omega\tau)}{2\omega^2} \frac{[1, 1]^2}{[1, -2 \cos \omega\tau, 1]}$
$\frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{2\tau}{4 + \omega^2\tau^2} \frac{[1, 0, -1]}{[1, -2c, 1]}$	$\frac{\sin \omega\tau}{2\omega} \frac{[1, 0, -1]}{[1, -2 \cos \omega\tau, 1]}$
$\frac{1}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{\tau^2}{g} \frac{[1, 2, 1]}{\left[ 1, -2fg/g, 1 - \frac{8\alpha\tau}{g} \right]}$ $f = 4 - r^2\tau^2$ $g = 4 + 4\alpha\tau + r^2\tau^2$ $r^2 = \alpha^2 + \omega^2$	$\frac{A}{2\omega r^2} \frac{[1, 1 + B/A, B/A]}{[1, -2d \cos \omega\tau, d^2]}$ $A = \omega - \omega d \cos \omega\tau - \alpha d \sin \omega\tau$ $B = \omega d^2 - \omega d \cos \omega\tau + \alpha d \sin \omega\tau$ $d = e^{-\alpha\tau}, r^2 = \alpha^2 + \omega^2$
$\frac{p + \alpha}{(p + \alpha)^2 + \omega^2}$	$\frac{\tau(\alpha\tau + 2)}{g} \frac{[1, 1 + h/k, h/k]}{\left[ 1, -2fg/g, 1 - \frac{8\alpha\tau}{g} \right]}$ $h = \alpha\tau - 2, k = \alpha\tau + 2$ $f, g$ as above	$\frac{C}{2r^2} \frac{[1, 1 + D/C, D/C]}{[1, -2d \cos \omega\tau, d^2]}$ $C = \alpha - \alpha d \cos \omega\tau + \omega d \sin \omega\tau$ $D = \alpha d^2 - \alpha d \cos \omega\tau - \omega d \sin \omega\tau$

\* Serial operator for inputs having zero initial value, see Section 3.2.

In the case of the simpler transfer functions the serial operators may be compared, as shown in Table 3. From this it can be seen that for  $Y(p) = 1/p$ ,  $1/p^2$ , the same serial operators result in both methods. In the case of  $Y(p) = 1/p^3$  the different operators  $\frac{\tau^3}{8} \frac{[1, 3, 3, 1]}{[1, -1]^3}$  and  $\frac{\tau^3}{12} \frac{[1, 5, 5, 1]}{[1, -1]^3}$  may be compared by integrating three times the ramp function  $[0, 1, 2, 3 \dots]$ . The results are  $[0, 0.125, 1.0, 4.13, 12.0, 28.13, 57, 104.1, 176.0 \dots]$  and  $[0, 0.0834, 0.834, 3.75, 11.33, 27.1, 55.5, 102.1, 173.4 \dots]$ . The correct result is  $[0, 0.0416, 0.667, 3.37, 10.67, 26.05, 54.0, 100.0, 170.6 \dots]$ . The second is the more effective operator.

expansion carried out, the result

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \alpha\tau - \frac{\alpha^2\tau^2}{2} + \frac{\alpha^3\tau^3}{4} \right) \frac{[1, 1]}{\left[ 1, - \left( 1 - \alpha\tau + \frac{\alpha^2\tau^2}{2} - \frac{\alpha^3\tau^3}{4} \right) \right]}$$

is obtained. Since the two operators differ only in the cubic term in  $\alpha\tau$  they will give the same result if a reasonable spacing of the ordinates is chosen in the first place, i.e.  $\tau$  reasonably small. It is difficult to state, in general, which of the two methods will give the greater accuracy, since this appears to depend on the

type of inputs being considered. The method proposed here, however, is exact for step-function inputs. The serial operator for any transfer function is then given by the j.t.f. without modification by the factor  $\frac{1}{2}(1+z)$ .

#### (4) CONCLUSION

The use of jump functions in approximate analysis has been demonstrated and the connection with serial numbers and serial operators has been discussed. The jump-transfer function has been defined as the ratio of the Laplace transforms of two jump functions. These are the input to a filter and the jump-function approximation of the actual output. The jump-transfer function may be replaced, for the purposes of approximate analysis, by an equivalent serial operator, and rules have been given for the formation of this operator for any transfer function. The method is exact for step-function inputs.

A "closed form" serial number representation of any input (except an impulse input) has been deduced from the Laplace transform of the jump-function representation of that input. This is, in effect, a summation process which may be done using the Laplace transform. The procedure has been demonstrated numerically and compared with existing methods of calculating approximate responses.

#### (5) ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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# THE EFFECT OF SEVERE AMPLITUDE LIMITATION ON CERTAIN TYPES OF RANDOM SIGNAL: A CLUE TO THE INTELLIGIBILITY OF "INFINITELY" CLIPPED SPEECH

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## SUMMARY

The paper is concerned with the effect of "infinite" peak clipping<sup>1-3</sup> on certain types of signal definable in statistical terms. The analysis is further extended to include subsequent differentiation of the clipped waveform with respect to time.

It is shown that with certain signals of common occurrence there is a marked similarity in spectral content before and after clipping. Furthermore, the phase relationships present a high degree of coherence.

Speech waveforms have certain attributes in common with these idealized signals, and it is therefore concluded that the high intelligibility of "infinitely" clipped speech is a phenomenon to be expected.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

It has been found, as a result of experiment, that a large degree of non-linearity can be tolerated in an amplifier before there is any marked degradation in the intelligibility of normal speech. In the limit the amplifier may have a characteristic of the form shown in Fig. 1, where the amplitude difference OA

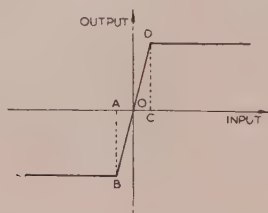


Fig. 1.—Amplifier characteristic.

is about 60 dB below the average level of the speech input signal. This is sometimes referred to as "infinite" peak clipping.<sup>1</sup> Assuming an input signal of the general form shown in Fig. 2(a), the output waveform of the amplifier will consist, for practical purposes, of a train of positive- and negative-going rectangular pulses of varying width, as in Fig. 2(b). For convenience we assume the clipping levels to be +1 and -1 units of amplitude.

If this clipped signal is now differentiated, we obtain the pulse train shown in Fig. 2(c). In practice, of course, the pulses will be of finite width and finite amplitude.

If either train of pulses is fed into a loudspeaker it will be found that, although the quality of the reproduced sound is very poor, the intelligibility is high.<sup>1,2,3</sup> More specifically, articulation tests based on sets of one-syllable words selected by a carefully controlled random process show articulation scores of the general order of 90% in each case. An initial period of accommodation is required whilst the listener gets used to the noisy character of the sound, and, moreover, fatigue is liable to set in fairly soon if the test is continued too long. By passing the

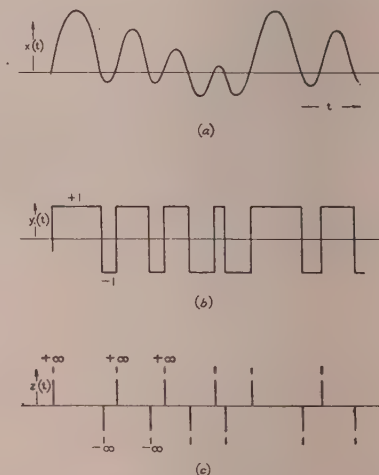


Fig. 2.—Effect of "infinite" peak clipping on a typical waveform.

- (a) Original waveform.
- (b) Clipped waveform.
- (c) Clipped waveform with subsequent differentiation.

pulse trains through a low-pass filter, the tonal quality is improved, but the effect on the intelligibility is not important.

When comparing the distorted waveform with the original it is evident that the only characteristic that is retained is the relative position of the zeros of the signal. It would therefore seem logical to conclude that the greater part of the information-bearing content of speech must be contained in the relative positions of the zeros. This conclusion, however, seems to be at variance with the almost universally accepted concept of the ear as a short-time Fourier analyser.

The object of this paper, therefore, is to examine to what extent the spectral content of the waveforms of Figs. 2(b) and 2(c) is similar *on the average* to that of the original signal of Fig. 1(a). More important still, however, is the degree of coherence between the two spectra under consideration, i.e. the extent to which corresponding regions of the spectrum are phase-related in a fixed rather than a random manner. (The term "coherence" is defined precisely in Section 3.3, but its use in this context is by no means new.<sup>4</sup>)

If it can be shown, as in fact it will be, that the spectral energy distribution is to a large extent invariant under clipping, it may be concluded that the high intelligibility of clipped speech is a phenomenon to be expected. However, it should be stressed that the method is only valid in so far as it relates to averages over long periods of time. Further and more detailed work is still required to show what are the important invariants in the case of individual sounds.

In order to simplify the analysis, various assumptions will be made regarding the character of the original waveform. It

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will be shown that these simplifications do not in fact invalidate the essential conclusions in any way.

## (2) REPRESENTATION OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNAL

In order to simplify the analysis that follows the continuous waveform of Fig. 2(a) will be time quantized in the manner illustrated in Fig. 3(a). The more important results of the paper

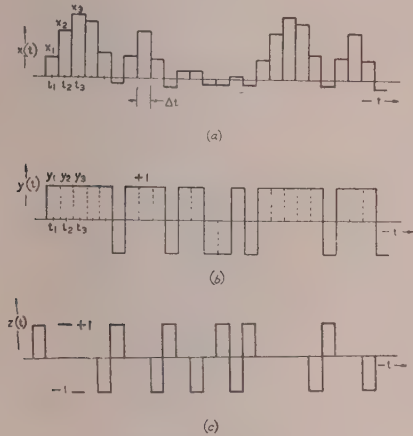


Fig. 3.—Time-quantized waveforms.

(a) Original pulse train [time-quantized version of Fig. 2(a)].  
(b) Clipped pulse train.  
(c) Differentiated clipped pulse train, with pulse reshaping.

are independent of the length of the quantizing interval, which, if so desired, may be considered as tending to zero.

As regards the signal amplitudes, it does not matter whether we assume the range of values to be continuous or to be quantized in discrete levels. From the notational point of view it is simpler to assume continuous functions, but this does not in any way constitute a restriction.

The waveform of Fig. 3(a) will be referred to throughout the paper as the *original pulse train*, and that of Fig. 3(b) as the *clipped pulse train*.

The original pulse train is assumed to be generated by some form of stationary random processes;<sup>5,6</sup> i.e. the statistics of the signal remain invariant under any shift in the origin of time. No consideration is given to purely periodic waveforms, since these may be handled by simpler and more conventional techniques.<sup>7,8</sup>

For the purpose of this analysis, signals will be divided into two classes as follows:

(a) Signals produced by a generating process such that the amplitude of one pulse is in no way modified by the nature of the pulse sequence immediately preceding that pulse. This will be referred to as a *totally random signal*.

(b) Signals such that the probability of a given amplitude is a function also of the sequence of amplitude levels preceding the pulse under consideration. This will be referred to as a *partially constrained signal*.

For the most part the paper deals with signals in category (a). These may be defined simply by means of the one-dimensional probability distribution  $p(x)$ , where  $p(x)\delta x$  is the probability that the amplitude  $x$  of a pulse lies between  $x$  and  $x + \delta x$ .

No restrictions are placed on the form of  $p(x)$  except that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p(x) dx = 1 \quad (1)$$

thus normalizing the distribution  $p(x)$ .

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} xp(x) dx = 0 \quad (2)$$

i.e. the d.c. level of the original pulse train is zero.

$$\int_{-\infty}^0 p(x) dx = \int_0^{+\infty} p(x) dx \quad (3)$$

The third restriction, which in effect states that positive and negative amplitudes are equally likely, ensures that there is no d.c. component in the clipped pulse train. The effect of relaxing this restriction is considered in Section 6.

No other restrictions are placed on the form of  $p(x)$  except, of course, that it must be wholly real. For amplitude quantization,  $p(x)$  will consist of a set of discrete values instead of a continuous function, but in the present instance this provokes no special difficulties.

With the partially constrained signal it is necessary to make use of the  $n$ -dimensional probability distribution  $p(x_r, x_s)$ , which denotes the joint probability that  $x$  lies between  $x_r$  and  $x_r + \delta x$  at time  $t_r$ , and between  $x_s$  and  $x_s + \delta x$  at time  $t_s$ .

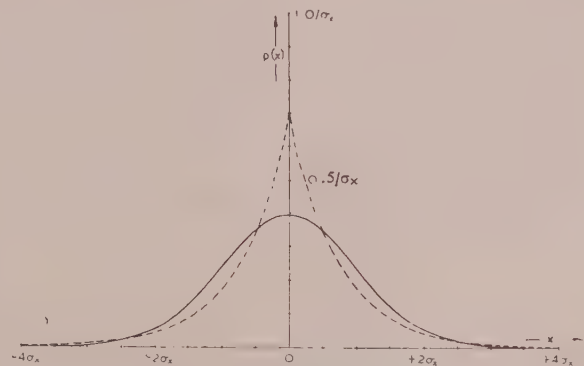


Fig. 4.—Probability distributions.

$$p_1(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2\sigma_x^2}$$

$$p_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x \sqrt{2}} e^{-\sqrt{2}|x|/\sigma_x}$$

Two specific probability distributions for  $p(x)$  will be considered, both of which satisfy the above restrictions, namely

$$p_1(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2\sigma_x^2} \quad (4)$$

and

$$p_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x \sqrt{2}} e^{-\sqrt{2}|x|/\sigma_x} \quad (5)$$

where  $\sigma_x$  is the standard deviation, defined as

$$\sigma_x = \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 p(x) dx \right]^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

The first is the Gaussian distribution and is characteristic of thermal noise. Moreover, it has been found experimentally that it also represents, to a close approximation, the instantaneous amplitude distribution of unvoiced speech sounds<sup>9</sup> (e.g. fricatives). The second, sometimes referred to as the exponential distribution, is a close approximation to the instantaneous



amplitude distribution of voiced speech sounds<sup>9</sup> (e.g. vowels, semi-vowels, etc.).

True speech signals should in fact be classified as partially constrained signals. However when  $t_s \rightarrow t_r$ ,  $p(x_r, x_s)$  tends to a single probability distribution  $p(x)$ . Hence it will be evident that under certain circumstances it will be legitimate to use eqns. (4) and (5) to derive results relating to speech intelligibility, and this in fact has been done.

### (3) SOME PROPERTIES OF THE CORRELATION FUNCTION

#### (3.1) Definition of the Correlation Function<sup>5,6</sup>

Let the original signal (or pulse train) be represented by the function  $x(t)$ , and the distorted signal (or pulse train) by  $y(t)$ . The cross-correlation function may be expressed as

$$R_{xy}(\tau) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2T} \int_{-T}^{+T} x(t)y(t+\tau)dt \quad (7)$$

where  $\tau$  is the time displacement of the signal  $y(t)$  relative to the signal  $x(t)$ .

It is customary to normalize the correlation function in the following manner:

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = R_{xy}(\tau)/\sigma_x\sigma_y \quad (8)$$

with the result that the function now ranges between limits of +1 and -1.

If the function  $y(t)$  is identical to the function  $x(t)$ , it is known as the auto-correlation function.

When the signals  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  are each generated by a stationary random process<sup>5,6</sup> we are obliged to redefine eqn. (8) in statistical terms as follows:

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x\sigma_y} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} xyp(x, y : \tau) dx dy \quad (9)$$

where  $p(x, y : \tau)$  denotes the joint probability of  $x$  lying between  $x$  and  $x + \delta x$  and  $y$  lying between  $y$  and  $y + \delta y$  when the displacement of  $y(t)$  relative to  $x(t)$  is  $\tau$ .

It will be observed that whereas eqn. (8) represents a time average of the product of the two signals expressed as functions of time, eqn. (9) is an average over the ensemble of possible product values at a single instant of time. The use of the second form instead of the first is legitimate only when stationary random conditions prevail.

#### (3.2) The Correlation Function and the Spectral-Energy-Density Function

It has been shown elsewhere<sup>5,6</sup> that the correlation function and the spectral-energy-density function are a Fourier transform pair,

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \rho(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(f) e^{+2j\pi f\tau} df \quad (10a)$$

$$\text{and} \quad g(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \rho(\tau) e^{-2j\pi f\tau} d\tau \quad (10b)$$

where  $g(f)$  is the spectral-energy-density function, and both  $\rho(\tau)$  and  $g(f)$  are normalized functions.

In the case where  $\rho(\tau)$  is an auto-correlation function the above result may be verified without much difficulty. However, when  $\rho(\tau)$  is a cross-correlation function, and  $g(f)$  is therefore a cross-

spectral-energy-density function, the derivation is a little less obvious. For this reason, and because of the dominant role that relationship plays in the subsequent analysis, it is considered advisable to outline briefly the manner in which it may be derived.

In the first place it should be emphasized that a random signal, like other signals, may be defined by a complex spectrum  $a_x(f)$ . (Once again this is assumed to be a normalized function.) However, whereas  $|a_x(f)|$  is determinate, and hence also  $g_x(f)$ , the phase function  $\phi_x(f)$  can only be expressed in statistical terms. It will therefore be evident that to derive the cross-spectral-energy-density function we must of necessity average the product  $a_x^*(f)a_y(f)$  over all possible values of  $(\phi_x - \phi_y)$ . Moreover, whereas  $g_{xx}(f)$  must be wholly real,  $g_{xy}(f)$  may in the general case contain both real and imaginary parts, each of which is an independent function of frequency.

Since  $|a_x(f)|$  and  $|a_y(f)|$  are determinate, so also must be the product  $|a_x(f)||a_y(f)|$ . Hence all we require is the average value of  $e^{+j[\phi_y(f) - \phi_x(f)]}$  as a function of frequency  $f$ . Without any formal analysis it is easy to show by means of a diagram such as Fig. 5 that the average value takes the form

$$K(f)e^{+j\Phi_{xy}(f)}$$

where  $|K(f)| \leq 1$  and both  $K(f)$  and  $\Phi_{xy}$  are determined by the probability distributions appropriate to  $\phi_x(f)$  and  $\phi_y(f)$  and the properties of the filter.

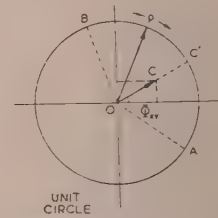


Fig. 5.—Phase fluctuation on the Argand diagram.

P fluctuates between A and B.  
C is the mean position of P.  
 $\Phi_{xy}$  is the mean value of  $(\phi_x - \phi_y)$ .

Hence the solution for  $g_{xy}(f)$  is

$$g_{xy}(f) = |a_x(f)||a_y(f)|K(f)e^{+j\Phi_{xy}(f)} \quad (11)$$

If the function  $y(t)$  is displaced by  $\tau$  relative to the function  $x(t)$  we may rewrite this equation as

$$g_{xy}(f)\tau = |a_x(f)||a_y(f)|K(f)e^{+j[\Phi_{xy}(f) + 2\pi f\tau]} \quad (12)$$

By integrating eqn. (12) over all positive and negative values of  $f$  we obtain the average cross-product as a function of  $\tau$ . But, by definition, this is in fact the cross-correlation function.

$$\text{Hence} \quad \rho_{xy}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g_{xy}(f)\tau df \quad (13a)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g_{xy}(f)e^{+2j\pi f\tau} df \quad (13b)$$

which demonstrates the validity of eqn. (10a).

#### (3.3) Coherence

Although  $g_{xy}(f)$  in eqn. (12) may contain both real and imaginary parts, the imaginary part must be odd, since  $a_x(f)$  and  $a_y(f)$  are the transforms of real functions of time, and

therefore integrate to zero when the integration is carried out over the full range of both positive and negative frequencies.

Hence

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \mathcal{R}[g_{xy}(f)\tau] df \quad (14)$$

Thus the correlation coefficient  $\rho_{xy}(\tau_1)$  is a measure of the average in-phase energy of the two signals for a given time displacement  $\tau_1$ . In other words it is a measure of the coherence of the signals.<sup>4</sup>

Now in general there will be some special value of  $\tau$ , say  $\tau'$ , which makes  $|\rho_{xy}(\tau)|$  an absolute maximum. This maximum value of the correlation coefficient will be called the "first coherence coefficient"  $\mu$ ;

i.e.

$$\mu = |\rho_{xy}(\tau')| \quad (15a)$$

$$= \left| \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g_{xy}(f)\tau' df \right| \quad (15b)$$

In the case where  $x(t)$  is the input to, and  $y(t)$  the output from, a non-linear filter it is evident that  $\mu$  may under certain circumstances provide a useful first-order measure of the expected average intelligibility at the output. On the other hand it is possible that a better measure will be given by

$$\nu = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |g_{xy}(f)| df \quad (16)$$

which will be referred to as the "second coherence coefficient" [note that  $|g_{xy}(f)|$  is independent of  $\tau$ ].

The difference between the two coefficients may be clarified by a specific example. For simplicity let us suppose that  $y(t)$  is derived from  $x(t)$  by means of a passive all-pass network having a phase characteristic that is a non-linear function of frequency. Evidently in this case  $\mu$  must of necessity be numerically less than unity, because there is no single value of  $\tau$  which will ensure that the spectrum of  $y(t + \tau)$  is in phase with the spectrum of  $x(t)$  throughout the entire frequency range. On statistical grounds, however, these two signals might be considered as being coherent, and this viewpoint would be in accordance with the observation that the ear is relatively insensitive to phase. Furthermore, it is evident that there always exists, in theory at any rate, an inverse network capable of recovering the original signal in its entirety.

The above considerations suggest that when a non-linear filter incorporates frequency-sensitive elements the second coherence coefficient is likely to prove a more satisfactory indication of intelligibility.

#### (4) THE EFFECT OF INFINITE CLIPPING ON A TOTALLY RANDOM SIGNAL

##### (4.1) The Cross-Correlation Function

The original waveform before clipping is illustrated in Fig. 3(a) and has the mathematical properties outlined in Section 2. The clipped waveform, shown in Fig. 3(b), will be symbolized by the function  $y(t)$ . To a set of values  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ , etc., at  $t_1, t_2, t_3$ , etc., there corresponds a set of values  $y_1, y_2, y_3$ , etc. By definition only two values of  $y$  are possible, namely  $+1$  or  $-1$ .

The mechanism of clipping may be symbolized mathematically by the relationship

$$y_r = x_r^{1/n} \quad (17)$$

where  $n$  is a very large odd integer. In the limit,  $n$  may be assumed to tend to infinity.

To evaluate the cross-correlation function of the two signals use will be made of eqn. (9). However, it is necessary first to obtain expressions for the probability distribution  $p(x, y; \tau)$ , which may be done in the following manner.

Consider the situation relevant to one pair of channels out of the ensemble of pairs of channels. This is illustrated in Fig. 6,

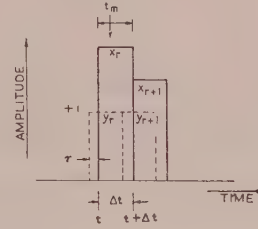


Fig. 6.—Calculation of the correlation function  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$ .

where  $t_m$  is the instant of time at which the observation is made. Let this observation be made during the  $r$ th pulse. Evidently  $t_m$  may lie anywhere between  $t$  and  $t + \Delta t$  with equal probability. Hence provided  $|\tau| < \Delta t$  we may say that the probability of an overlap of  $x_r$  with  $y_r$  at  $t_m$  is  $(\Delta t - |\tau|)/\Delta t$ , and the probability of an overlap of  $x_r$  with  $y_{r+1}$  at  $t_m$  is  $|\tau|/\Delta t$ . However, given that  $x_r$  and  $y_r$  do overlap, the joint probability  $p(x_r, y_r)dxdy$  is identical to the probability  $p(x_r)dx$ , whilst given that  $x_r$  and  $y_{r+1}$  overlap, the joint probability  $p(x_r, y_{r+1})dxdy$  is identical to the probability  $p(x_r)p(y_{r+1})dxdy$ , i.e. the product of the independent probabilities.

Hence for the range  $|\tau| < \Delta t$  we may rewrite eqn. (9) in the form

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = \left[ \frac{\Delta t - |\tau|}{\Delta t} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_r^{1+1/n} p(x_r) dx + \frac{|\tau|}{\Delta t} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x_r x_{r+1}^{1/n} p(x_r) p(x_{r+1}) dx dx \right] / \sigma_x \sigma_y \quad (18)$$

This expression may be simplified by noting that

- (a) The second integral equates to zero.
- (b) Since  $n$  is odd,  $x_r^{1+1/n} = |x_r|$ .
- (c) As a result of the restriction involved in eqn. (3)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |x_r| p(x_r) dx = -2 \int_{-\infty}^0 x_r p(x_r) dx = +2 \int_0^{+\infty} x_r p(x_r) dx \quad (19)$$

To simplify the notation, the quantity  $\int_0^{+\infty} x_r p(x_r) dx$ , which represents the average value of the positive-going pulses (or alternatively the average value of the negative-going pulses), will be given the symbol  $A_x$ .

By noting furthermore that

- (d) The r.m.s. level of  $y(t)$ , i.e.  $\sigma_y$ , is unity.

(e) For  $|\tau| > \Delta t$  all integrals equate to zero [for the same reasons as does the second integral of eqn. (18)], we finally obtain the result that

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = \frac{2A_x}{\sigma_x} \frac{(\Delta t - |\tau|)}{\Delta t} \text{ for } |\tau| < \Delta t$$

$$= 0 \text{ for } |\tau| > \Delta t \quad (20)$$

This is illustrated graphically in Fig. 7.



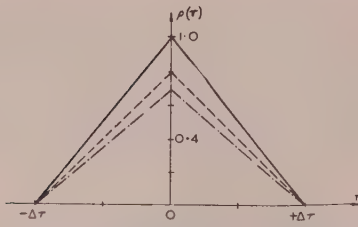


Fig. 7.—Normalized correlation functions for clipped pulse train.

—  $\rho_{xx}(\tau)$  and  $\rho_{yy}(\tau)$ : Auto-correlation functions before and after clipping.  
 ---  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$ : Cross-correlation function for distribution  $p_1(x)$ .  
 - · -  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$ : Cross-correlation function for distribution  $p_2(x)$ .

The first coherence coefficients for the two specific probability distributions considered in Section 2 may now be evaluated as follows:

$$\mu_{xy} = 2A_x/\sigma_x = \sqrt{(2/\pi)} = 0.798, \text{ for } p_1(x) \quad (21)$$

$$\mu_{xy} = 2A_x/\sigma_x = 1/\sqrt{2} = 0.707, \text{ for } p_2(x) \quad (22)$$

It is interesting to note how high these values are numerically. It is also interesting that they are generally of the same order as the percentage articulation scores obtained during tests with clipped speech. The fact that articulation scores average some 10% higher is not surprising, however, in that the above analysis is pertinent only to a totally random signal. This point will be considered again in Sections 7 and 9.

#### (4.2) The Auto-Correlation Functions

Applying the same methods as before, the following interesting result is obtained:

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = \mu_{xy}\rho_{xx}(\tau) = \mu_{xy}\rho_{yy}(\tau) \quad (23)$$

In other words, the two auto-correlation functions and the cross-correlation function are identical in shape. The absolute amplitudes differ only by a constant factor of proportionality equal to the first coherence coefficient.

#### (4.3) The Spectral-Energy-Density Functions

Since the three correlation functions are identical except for a constant factor of proportionality, it is evident that the three spectral-energy-density functions will also be identical except for the same constant factor. Applying the transform given in eqn. (10b) to eqn. (20) the following result is obtained:

$$g_{xx}(f) = g_{yy}(f) = \frac{\sin^2 \pi f \Delta t}{\pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} \quad (24a)$$

$$\text{and} \quad g_{xy}(f) = \mu g_{xx}(f) \quad (24b)$$

Since  $g_{xy}(f)$  is wholly real for all values of  $f$ , it follows that both definitions of coherence are identical;

$$\text{i.e.} \quad \nu = \mu$$

The spectral-density functions are plotted in Fig. 8 for values of  $\mu$  appropriate to the Gaussian and exponential distributions of eqns. (4) and (5).

### (5) DIFFERENTIATED CLIPPED RANDOM PULSE TRAIN

#### (5.1) Outline of the Method

If the infinitely clipped waveform of Fig. 2(b) is differentiated, a train of alternate positive and negative delta impulses will be obtained as in Fig. 2(c). These impulses are theoretically of zero duration and infinite amplitude, but in practice they will be smoothed by the finite bandwidth of the system. As an analytical

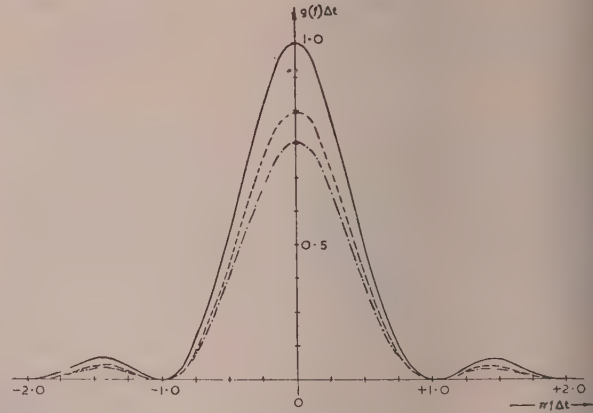


Fig. 8.—Normalized spectral-energy-density functions for clipped pulse train.

—  $g_{xx}(f), g_{yy}(f)$ : Spectral-energy-density functions before and after clipping.  
 ---  $g_{xy}(f)$ : Cross-spectral-energy-density function for  $p_1(x)$ .  
 - · -  $g_{xy}(f)$ : Cross-spectral-energy-density function for  $p_2(x)$ .

simplification it is assumed that they are reshaped to form unit-amplitude rectangular pulses of the same duration  $\Delta t$  as the original time-quantized pulse train [see Fig. 3(c)].

In comparing Fig. 3(c) with Fig. 3(b) it is evident that the possible signal transformations may be grouped into four main categories as follows:

- (a) Two positive values of  $x(t)$  in succession. This produces zero output after differentiation; hence  $z(t) = 0$ .
- (b) Two successive negative values of  $x(t)$ . Again  $z(t) = 0$ .
- (c) A positive value of  $x$  is succeeded by a negative value of  $x$ . In this case  $z = -1$ .
- (d) A negative value of  $x$  is succeeded by a positive value of  $x$ . Hence  $z = +1$ .

It is not difficult to show that the absolute probability of each category is  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The analysis then proceeds on lines somewhat similar to those of Section 4.1. This involves a calculation of the probabilities of the two possible products which may occur for each of the four signal sequences described above. These probabilities will be functions of the time displacement  $\tau$ . Multiplying the product by its probability and integrating over the ensemble gives the average product for each category. The sum of the four average products, each weighted by  $\frac{1}{4}$ , expressed as a function of  $\tau$ , is by definition the correlation function.

Full details of this analysis are given elsewhere.<sup>7</sup> However, it should be noted a considerable simplification may be effected by making use of the principles outlined in Section 7.2.

The final result is that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \rho_{xz}(\tau) &= -\sqrt{(2)}A_x(3\Delta t + 2\tau)/(2\sigma_x\Delta t), & \text{for } -\frac{3}{2}\Delta t < \tau < -\frac{1}{2}\Delta t \\ &= +2\sqrt{(2)}A_x\tau/(\sigma_x\Delta t), & \text{for } -\frac{1}{2}\Delta t < \tau < +\frac{1}{2}\Delta t \\ &= +\sqrt{(2)}A_x(3\Delta t - 2\tau)/(2\sigma_x\Delta t), & \text{for } +\frac{1}{2}\Delta t < \tau < +\frac{3}{2}\Delta t \\ &= 0 & \text{for all other values of } \tau \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (25)$$

This is illustrated in Fig. 9.

By inspection it is evident that

$$\mu_{xz} = \sqrt{(2)}A_x/\sigma_x \quad (26)$$

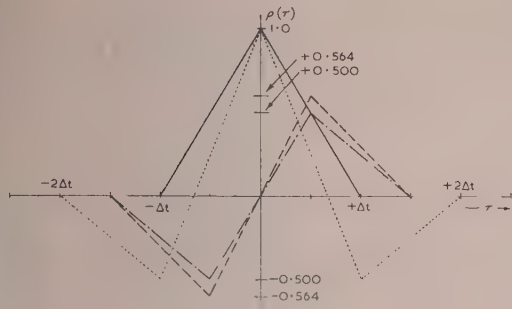


Fig. 9.—Normalized correlation functions for differentiated clipped pulse train, with pulse reshaping.

—  $\rho_{xx}(\tau)$ : Auto-correlation function of  $x(t)$ .  
 .....  $\rho_{zz}(\tau)$ : Auto-correlation function of  $z(t)$ .  
 ---  $\rho_{xz}(\tau)$ : Cross-correlation function for distribution  $p_1(x)$ .  
 - · -  $\rho_{xz}(\tau)$ : Cross-correlation function for distribution  $p_2(x)$ .

Comparing this result with that obtained for the clipped pulse train it can be seen that the effect of differentiation has been to reduce the first coherence coefficient by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$ . The significance of this is discussed in Section 5.3.

### (5.2) The Auto-Correlation Function of $z(t)$

Computation of the auto-correlation function of the differentiated clipped signal is much simplified by the method of quantization outlined in Section 7.2. The result is illustrated in Fig. 9(b).

### (5.3) The Cross-Spectral-Energy-Density Function

The Fourier transform of the cross-correlation function may be evaluated by standard methods without difficulty. The

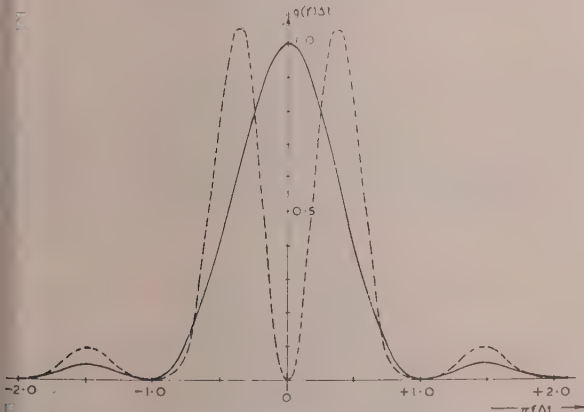


Fig. 10.—Normalized spectral-energy-density functions for differentiated clipped pulse train, with pulse reshaping.

—  $g_{xx}(f)$ : Spectral function for original pulse train.  
 ---  $g_{zz}(f)$ : Spectral function for differentiated clipped pulse train with pulse reshaping.

Following result for the cross-spectral-energy-density function is obtained:

$$g_{xz}(f)\tau' = -2j \frac{\sqrt{(2)A_x} \sin^3 \pi f \Delta t}{\sigma_x \pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} e^{+j\pi f \Delta t} \quad (27a)$$

$$= \frac{2\sqrt{(2)A_x}}{\sigma_x} \left( \frac{\sin^4 \pi f \Delta t}{\pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} - j \frac{\sin^3 \pi f \Delta t \cos \pi f \Delta t}{\pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} \right) \quad (27b)$$

where  $\tau' = \Delta$

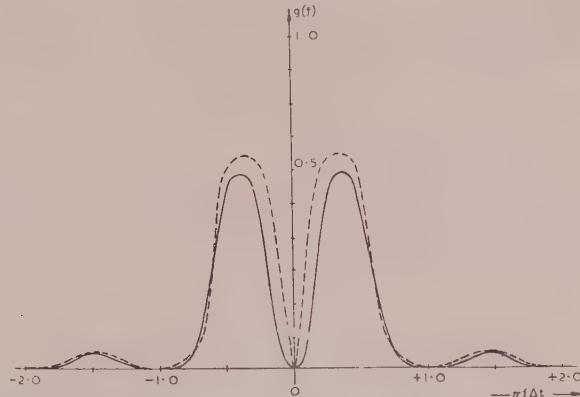


Fig. 11.—Cross-spectral-energy-density functions for differentiated clipped pulse train, with pulse reshaping.

— — Modulus of  $g_{xz}(f)$ .  
 --- Real part of  $g_{xz}(f)$  for a relay  $\tau = \pm \frac{1}{2} \Delta t$ .

Curves are for distribution  $p_1(x)$ . For distribution  $p_2(x)$ , multiply ordinate values by 0.89.

The real part of eqn. (27b) has been plotted in Fig. 11 for the first probability distribution [see eqn. (4)].

The second coherence coefficient may be written

$$\nu_{xz} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |g_{xz}(f)| df \quad (16)$$

$$= \frac{2\sqrt{(2)A_x}}{\sigma_x} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left| \frac{\sin^3 \pi f \Delta t}{\pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} \right| df \quad (28)$$

The solution to the above integral, suggested by L. Lewin, leads to the result that

$$\begin{aligned} \nu_{xz} &= 4\sqrt{(2)A_x}/\pi\sigma_x = 1.273 \mu_{xz} \\ &= 0.900 \mu_{xy} \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Hence the effect of differentiating the clipped signal may be summarized as follows:

- The first coherence coefficient is reduced by approximately 29%.
- The second coherence coefficient is reduced by only 10%.

The latter result is of interest in that it has been found that subsequent differentiation does not materially affect the intelligibility of clipped speech.

### (5.4) The Spectral-Energy-Density Function of $z(t)$

There are three possible ways of obtaining the spectral-energy-density function  $g_{zz}(f)$  of the differentiated clipped signal:

- By computing the Fourier transform of  $\rho_{zz}(\tau)$ .
- By substituting  $g_{xz}(f)\tau'$  and  $|a_x(f)| = [g_{xx}(f)]^{1/2}$  in eqn. (12) and identifying the correct expressions for  $K(f)$  and  $\Phi_{xz}(f)$ .
- By operating on the expression for  $g_{yy}(f)$  given in eqn. (24a).

The first is rather tedious. The second is instructive and leads to the result  $K(f) = 2A_x/\sigma_x$  and  $\Phi_{xz}(f) = -\pi/2$ . The third method, however, is the simplest and will therefore be described.

Differentiation is equivalent to passing the signal through a filter whose response rises with frequency at the rate of 6 dB per octave. Hence the first step is to multiply  $g_{yy}(f)$  by  $(2\pi f \Delta t)^2$ . To reshape the signal into a rectangular pulse train we imagine it to be passed through a filter having a  $\sin x/x$  type response. This in turn involves multiplication by  $(\sin \pi f \Delta t)^2 / \pi^2 f^2 \Delta t$ .



Finally, in order to normalize the result we multiply by a suitable constant so as to satisfy the requirement

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g_{zz}(f) df = 1 \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (30)$$

This leads to the simple result

$$g_{zz}(f) = 2(\sin \pi f \Delta t)^4 / \pi^2 f^2 \Delta t \quad . \quad . \quad (31)$$

By comparing eqns. (27) and (31) it will be seen that

$$g_{zz}(f) = \mathcal{R}[g_{xz}(f)] / \mu_{xz} \quad . \quad . \quad (32)$$

#### (6) THE EFFECT OF ASYMMETRY IN THE ORIGINAL WAVEFORM

The third restriction on the form of  $p(x)$ , given in eqn. (3) of Section 2 will now be relaxed. As already pointed out, the clipped signal will then possess a d.c. component.

$$\text{Let} \quad \int_{-\infty}^0 p(x) dx = k \int_0^{+\infty} p(x) dx \quad . \quad . \quad (33)$$

where  $0 < k < +\infty$

Then the probability of a positive pulse is  $1/(1+k)$  and the probability of a negative pulse is  $k/(1+k)$ .

If  $\bar{y}$  is the average value of  $y$ , or in other words the d.c. component, then

$$\bar{y} = (1-k)/(1+k) \quad . \quad . \quad (34)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_y &= (\bar{y}^2 - \bar{y}^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= 2\sqrt{k}/(1+k) \quad . \quad . \quad (35) \end{aligned}$$

The presence of a d.c. component does in principle necessitate the substitution of  $(y - \bar{y})$  for  $y$  in eqns. (7) and (9). However, in the present instance  $\bar{x}$  is zero. This being so, it may easily be shown that the result is independent of whether or not the substitution is made. Hence it follows that the only modification is due to a change in value of  $\sigma_y$ . The first coherence coefficient is thus increased to

$$\mu_{xy} = A_x (1+k) / \sigma_x \sqrt{k} \quad . \quad . \quad (36)$$

This result, which may seem a little surprising at first sight, can conveniently be demonstrated by reference to Fig. 12. As

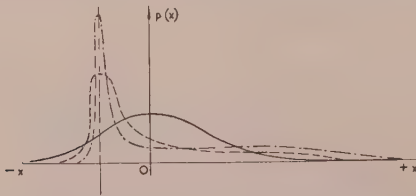


Fig. 12.—Probability distributions with increasing asymmetry.

the degree of asymmetry is progressively increased, the tendency is to concentrate the probability curve into a narrow thin hump of high probability on one side of zero, balanced by a much wider range of possible values, all of relatively low probability, on the other side. The average product is accordingly increased because negative values of  $y$  are much more frequent than positive values, and the set of possible values of  $x$  producing a negative value of  $y$  are much more restricted in range.

In the case of the differentiated clipped signal the following

considerations apply. First there can be no d.c. component after differentiation. Secondly, the probabilities of the signal transformation categories (c) and (d) described in Section 3 are each reduced from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $k/(1+k)^2$ . Thirdly,  $\sigma_x$  is reduced from  $1/\sqrt{2}$  to  $2\sqrt{k}/(1+k)$ .

Hence the first coherence coefficient is reduced to

$$\mu_{xz} = 2\sqrt{(2)A_x \sqrt{k}} / \sigma_x (1+k) \quad . \quad . \quad (37)$$

The reason why this result is the contrary of the previous result is to be found in the operation of the assumed pulse reshaping circuit which follows the differentiating circuit. A trace of the original asymmetry is lost, and therefore the first waveform becomes less and less like the original as the asymmetry is increased.

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that relaxing restriction (c) in no way alters the shapes of either the correlation function or the spectral-density functions. As has already been pointed out, these are independent of the form of  $p(x)$ .

#### (7) PARTIALLY CONSTRAINED SIGNALS

##### (7.1) Coherence

The general form of the correlation function is given in eqn. (9). Letting  $\tau \rightarrow 0$ , it is evident that

$$p(x, y; \tau) \rightarrow p(x, y) \quad . \quad . \quad (38)$$

But in the case of the clipped signal,  $y$  is a function of  $x$  only and hence

$$p(x, y) \equiv p(x) \quad . \quad . \quad (39)$$

Hence  $\rho_{xy}(0)$  is a function only of the instantaneous amplitude distribution  $p(x)$  and is independent of the transition probabilities.

But the first coherence coefficient is, by definition,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= |\rho_{xy}(\tau)| \\ &= |\rho_{xy}(0)| \text{ for the clipped signal.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence with infinite clipping the first coherence coefficient is determined entirely by the form of  $p(x)$  and is independent of the statistical constraints between successive signal values. On the other hand, when  $y$  is a function of time also, as with the differentiated clipped signal, the coherence coefficient becomes a function of the transition probabilities between successive signal values.

##### (7.2) Computation of the Correlation and Spectral-Density Functions

The following discussion is applicable whatever the form of the non-linear filter producing  $y$  from  $x$ , provided that  $y$  is a function of  $x$  only, and is therefore not limited to the simple case of infinite clipping. Certain of the observations can, however, be applied to the case where there is time dependence, but a certain caution should be exercised.

In deriving eqn. (18) it was possible to assume that

$$p(x_r, y_{r+1}) = p(x_r)p(y_{r+1})$$

In the more general case of partially constrained signals it is not possible to make this simplification. Hence the second integral in eqn. (18) does not necessarily equate to zero. Furthermore, for  $|\tau| > \Delta t$ ,  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$  may have values other than zero.

It can be shown without much difficulty that, if the original signal is time-quantized into rectangular pulses, as in Fig. 3(a), the correlation functions can also be quantized into a series of overlapping triangular pulses as illustrated in Fig. 13. The sum of these pulses, denoted by the dotted line, defines the correlation

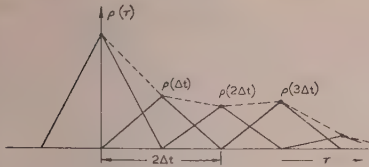


Fig. 13.—Time-quantization of correlation function into elementary triangles.

nction. Hence it is only necessary to calculate  $\rho(\tau)$  at the specific values  $\tau = 0, \pm\Delta t, \pm 2\Delta t$ , etc.

This proposition can, without formal proof, be seen to follow in a general manner from the nature of eqn. (18). The first integral defines the triangular pulse centered at  $\tau = 0$ , and the second integral (assuming it is non-zero) describes the triangular pulse centered at  $\tau = \Delta t$ . When  $\tau$  exceeds  $\Delta t$  the first integral is excluded from the equation, but a second one takes its place describing the pulse centered on  $\tau = 2\Delta t$ . This process is repeated indefinitely for increasing values of  $\tau$ .

The values of  $\rho(\tau)$  at the points  $m\Delta t$ , where  $m$  is a positive or negative integer, or zero, are given by

$$\rho_{xy}(m\Delta t) = \frac{1}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x y_m p(x, y_m) dx dy \quad (41)$$

where  $y_m = y(t + m\Delta t)$ , if  $x = x(t)$

Now  $p(y_m, x) = p(y_m|x)p(x) \quad (42)$

where  $p(y_m|x)$  is the dependent probability distribution defining the probability of  $y$  at  $(t + m\Delta t)$  given the value of  $x$  at  $t$ . This equation can be rewritten as

$$\rho_{xy}(m\Delta t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} y_m p(y_m|x) dy_m \right] dx \quad (43)$$

In general this represents a more useful formulation than in (41) in that the variables have to some extent been separated. Furthermore, the expressions  $p(x)$  and  $p(y_m|x)$  can be deduced experimentally in a somewhat more direct manner.

The same methods can be extended to the calculation of the spectral-density functions by virtue of the well-known Fourier superposition theorem.

$$g_{xy}(f) = \frac{\sin^2 \pi f \Delta t}{\sigma_x \sigma_y \pi^2 f^2 \Delta t} \sum_m \rho_{xy}(m\Delta t) e^{-j\pi f m \Delta t} \quad (44)$$

Finally it should be stressed that the above results are applicable to the study of both auto- and cross-correlation functions and both auto- and cross-spectral density functions. Thus to define the auto-correlation function  $\rho_{xx}(m\Delta t)$  it is only necessary in eqn. (43) to substitute  $x_m$  for  $y_m$ .

### (7.3) Relationship between the Three Correlation Functions

In the case of totally random signals it was shown that the three correlation functions  $\rho_{xx}(\tau)$ ,  $\rho_{yy}(\tau)$ ,  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$  were all identical except for a constant factor of proportionality. With partially constrained signals this is no longer necessarily true. Thus for a sinusoidal input  $x = \cos \omega t$ ,  $\rho_{xx}(\tau)$  is sinusoidal in form, and so is  $\rho_{xy}(\tau)$ , but  $\rho_{yy}(\tau)$  is triangular.<sup>7,8</sup>

It would be interesting and perhaps useful to find the conditions under which the following identities are either jointly or separately satisfied:

$$\rho_{xy}(\tau) = c \rho_{xx}(\tau) \quad (45)$$

$$\rho_{yy}(\tau) = \rho_{xx}(\tau) \quad (46)$$

This is not an easy problem, and as far as is known no rigorous explicit solution has been obtained. It is possible, however, to show that at least one important class of signals satisfies the

first requirement. These are signals for which  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x, x_m) dx$

can be expressed in the form  $P(x)Q(m)$ , where  $P(x)$  is a function of  $x$  only and  $Q(m)$  is a function of  $m$  only.<sup>10</sup> This result was realized independently by the author, but was expressed rather differently in what is believed to be a more general and at the

same time more useful form, namely that  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x|x_m) dx$  should

be of the form  $P(x)Q(m)$ . Verification of either of these forms may be accomplished by substituting in either eqn. (41) or (43) as appropriate, and observing that  $Q(m)$  may be moved outside the integral, thus leaving an integral which is independent of  $m$ .

An important form of  $p(x, x_m)$  in the above category is the normal bivariate distribution

$$p(x, x_m) = \frac{1}{2\pi[1 - R_{xx}^2(\tau)]^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{[x^2 + x_m^2 - 2xx_m R_{xx}(\tau)]/2[1 - R_{xx}^2(\tau)]} \quad (47)$$

The properties of this distribution for various types of distortion have been treated by several writers.<sup>11,12</sup> In the case of infinite clipping the correlation function of the output signal is

$$R_{yy}(\tau) = \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin [R_{xx}(\tau)] \quad (48)$$

An even more general class of signals has been defined.<sup>10</sup> It includes the previously mentioned class as a special case, but it is certainly not exclusive. Nevertheless, the formulation is so broad as to include, almost certainly, all cases of practical interest.

The second identity, of eqn. (46), (which inevitably requires that eqn. (45) be satisfied also) will be met if

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_y^2 \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p(x|x_m) dx &= \sigma_x^2 \left[ 2 \int_0^{\infty} p(x|x_m) dx - 1 \right] \\ &= S(x)T(m) \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

where  $S(x)$  is a function of  $x$  only and  $T(m)$  is a function of  $m$  only. (It should be noted, however, that this result is specific to the case of infinite clipping only.)

It is possible that there may be other probability distributions that do not meet the above requirements but still satisfy the relation of eqn. (46).

In conclusion, it is worth while emphasizing once again that although clipping may modify the spectrum of a partially constrained signal very considerably, the coherence coefficient still provides a reliable indication of the average common spectral energy.

## (8) SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The signals treated in the paper may be divided into two principal categories, namely "totally random" and "partially constrained" signals. In both cases it is convenient to time-quantize the signal so that it consists of a train of adjacent rectangular pulses of varying amplitude [see Fig. 3(a)].

Two coherence coefficients are defined, namely  $\mu$  and  $\nu$ . The first, which is applicable to the case of straightforward clipping, is given by the maximum value of the cross-correlation function. The second is defined as the integral over all frequencies of the modulus of the cross-spectral-energy-density function.



The effect of infinite clipping on a totally random pulse train is considered. It is shown that

(a) The three correlation functions are related in the simple manner indicated by eqn. (23). They are all identical in shape (see Fig. 7), and this shape is a function only of the manner of quantization.

(b) The spectral-energy-density functions are therefore similarly related, and again identical in shape (see Fig. 8).

(c) On the assumption that the three restrictions of eqns. (1)–(3) are valid, the expression for the coherence coefficients is singularly simple, namely

$$\nu_{xy} = \mu_{xy} = \frac{2}{\sigma_x} \int_0^{+\infty} xp(x)dx \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (50)$$

where  $\sigma_x$  is the standard deviation of the probability distribution  $p(x)$  defining the range of amplitudes  $x$  of the original signal.

(d) When  $p(x)$  is Gaussian in form [see eqn. (4) and Fig. 4],  $\mu_{xy}$  has the value 0.798. For an exponential distribution [see eqn. (5) and Fig. 4]  $\mu_{xy}$  has the value 0.707. It is interesting to note that in both cases the coefficients are relatively large.

The effect of subsequent differentiation is considered. Expressions for the correlation functions and also the spectral-energy-density functions are deduced, and are illustrated in Figs. 9, 10 and 11. The only simple relation between these functions is that the spectral-energy-density function of the output signal is identical in shape to the real part of the cross-spectral-energy-density function. It is shown that the first coherence coefficient  $\mu$  is reduced by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$  as a result of subsequent differentiation. By contrast, the second coherence coefficient is reduced by only 10%.

The third restriction on the form of  $p(x)$  expressed in eqn. (3) is relaxed. The only change is that the coherence coefficients are modified in the simple manner indicated in eqns. (36) and (37). Whereas asymmetry increases the coherence for simple clipping, it decreases the coherence when the clipped signal is subject to subsequent differentiation.

The mathematical techniques previously described are applied to the case of partially constrained signals. It is shown that in the case of simple clipping the coherence coefficient is defined as before and is independent of the nature of the statistical constraints relating the values of successive signal amplitudes. A quantized technique is indicated for evaluating the spectral-energy-density functions and correlation functions of clipped, partially constrained signals. It is shown that there is no simple criterion for determining the conditions under which the signal is least likely to be mutilated by the process of clipping. However, certain special cases can be formulated, amongst which is notably the normal bivariate distribution.

## (9) CONCLUSIONS

### (9.1) Speech Clipping

It is important to examine to what extent the results obtained may be applied to the case of clipped speech.

In the first place it is evident that speech falls into the category of partially constrained signals. However, this by itself does not constitute a limitation, since it has been shown in Section 7.1 that the first coherence coefficient is unaffected by the character of the statistical constraints between successive signal values.

Secondly, it is clear that the results only have significance in respect of very long samples. In other words,  $p_1(x)$  and  $p_2(x)$  in eqns. (4) and (5) are the respective averages over all the possible unvoiced and voiced sounds. With this formulation nothing can be deduced about the intelligibility of individual sounds, except of course that large deviations below the average must be relatively infrequent.

The principal difficulty is the unknown relationship between the coherence coefficients and intelligibility. In the case of clipped speech the theoretical values of coherence coefficient are 80% for unvoiced sounds (e.g. fricatives) and 71% for voiced sounds (e.g. vowels, semi-vowels, etc.). The measured articulation scores for single-syllable words (voiced and unvoiced sounds mixed) rises from about 70% to a maximum of 90% as the test proceeds, after which there is a falling off owing to fatigue.<sup>1</sup> Further investigation<sup>3</sup> has shown that the vowel sounds suffer more than consonants; this is in general accord with the relative values of coherence coefficient for unvoiced and voiced sounds. The effect of subsequent differentiation is to reduce the first coherence coefficient by a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$ , and the second coherence coefficient by only 10%. Articulation tests<sup>1</sup> show no significant change due to subsequent differentiation, which would seem to justify the use of the second coherence coefficient in this case.

On the basis of the above figures it is tempting to assume on a *post hoc ergo propter hoc* basis—a definite formal relationship between coherence coefficient and intelligibility. This would indeed be dangerous, but on very general grounds it does seem likely that the coherence coefficient must provide an approximate first-order indication of intelligibility. A more accurate criterion would be based on the correlation function as a whole, and also the higher-order product moments.

The margin between the coherence coefficient and the articulation score may in part be due to the marked asymmetry of the average speech waveform, which must be taken into account in the numerical calculation of the coherence coefficient. However, the greater part of the margin must be attributed to the inability of the ear to utilize the inherent redundancy in the waveform to combat the effect of signal distortion.

With regard to the relationship between the auto-correlation functions before and after clipping, it is interesting to note that some preliminary experiments with a computer described in a companion paper<sup>8</sup> have shown a marked resemblance for the sounds so far tested.

### (9.2) Further Pertinence of the Results

Clipping may be utilized as a form of coding, i.e. it resembles pulse-code-modulation system in which the signal is represented by a single binary digit. The percentage harmonic distortion due to sampling is then  $\sqrt{[2(1 - \mu)]}$ , where  $\mu$  is the coherence coefficient as defined in Section 3.3.

The mean-square error and the correlation coefficient are related in the following manner:

$$(\overline{x - y})^2 = \overline{x^2} + \overline{y^2} - 2\overline{xy}$$

Hence it is possible that a few of the results may be of use in the calculation of the response of highly non-linear servo mechanisms to random inputs. In particular, the technique of quantization outlined in Section 7 may assist in simplifying specific computations.

### (10) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# THE GENERATION OF MILLIMETRE WAVES

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## SUMMARY

Problems in the generation of millimetre waves are considered, and further study of sparked generators is found desirable. A contribution is made to the simple theory of such generators. Experiments made to verify the theory are not wholly successful, but their evidence, together with that of other workers, strongly suggests that this simple theory is largely correct. Experiments at variance with the present results are examined critically. It is concluded that useful results can only be obtained with sparks in oil.

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

- $\mu$  = Permeability in boundary-value problem.
- $\epsilon$  = Permittivity in boundary-value problems.
- $l$  = Characteristic length.
- $\tau$  = Characteristic time (e.g. period of the field).
- $C_1, C_2$  = Parameters required to be constant for similarity of boundary-value problems.
- $\sigma$  = Conductivity in boundary-value problem.
- $\omega$  = Angular frequency.
- $a$  = Radius of sphere.
- $t$  = Time.
- $E(t)$  = Radiated field at time  $t$ .
- $\alpha$  = Damping coefficient of natural oscillations of sphere.
- $\omega_0$  = Natural angular frequency of sphere.
- $G(\omega)$  = Amplitude of component having frequency  $\omega$  in the spectrum of  $E(t)$ .
- $G^*(\omega)$  = Complex conjugate of  $G(\omega)$ .
- $\Delta\omega$  = Element of frequency selected by a spectrometer.
- $P(\omega)$  = Power radiated in the element  $\Delta\omega$ .
- $m$  = Resolving power of the spectrometer.
- $n$  = A parameter given by  $\alpha = n\omega_0$ .
- $p$  = Dipole moment of a metallic sphere in an electric field  $E$ .
- $W$  = Potential energy of the sphere in a static field.
- $s$  = Number of discharges per second.
- $\eta$  = Efficiency of energy radiation.
- $V_1, V_2$  = Output and input amplitudes of pulses to amplifier.
- $B$  = Amplifier bandwidth.
- $\gamma$  = Crystal parameter—volts video output per watt of r.f. input.

## (1) DIFFICULTIES WITH COHERENT OSCILLATORS

The region of the electromagnetic spectrum between the wavelengths of about 200 microns and a few millimetres remains relatively unexplored, even after half a century of radio research. This region is at present of special interest to physicists, biophysicists, engineers and chemists, because of the many problems of physical structure and instrumentation whose solution would be greatly facilitated by suitable sources and detectors for electromagnetic waves in this part of the spectrum.

The recent extension of the infra-red techniques to 700 microns by McCubbin<sup>1</sup> is an important contribution to the subject, but

the extension of the radio spectrum has met with considerable difficulties. Attention has been drawn to the problems Pearce<sup>2</sup> and Klumb,<sup>3</sup> and it is not intended to restate their view here; however, it is desirable at this stage to examine some of the suggested methods and to examine critically some of the work that has been reported.

Necessary properties are, of course, that source and detector should have sufficient power and sensitivity to allow for reflections and power losses in the apparatus and material being examined. It is further desirable (e.g. in the examination of fine structures) that the radiation used should have as narrow bandwidth as possible. This latter requirement can be met by the application of filtering techniques (e.g. spectrometers) to wideband sources, but for the sake of efficiency it would be better if the source itself were a so-called "monochromatic" source such as, for example, a klystron, or to a lesser degree a magnetron. Consideration of the probable sensitivities of thermal detectors (Golay cell, thermocouple, etc.) and crystals in this part of the spectrum leads to the expectation that the minimum useful resolved power is of the order of a microwave.

The scaling of conventional electronic devices is impeded by the nature of materials available. Stratton<sup>4</sup> has shown that the boundary-value problems are similar if the following relations hold:

$$\mu\epsilon\left(\frac{l}{\tau}\right)^2 = C_1 \quad \dots \dots \dots$$

$$\mu\sigma\frac{l^2}{\tau} = C_2 \quad \dots \dots \dots$$

In constructing a shorter-wavelength scale model of an oscillator, eqn. (1) is easily maintained by making  $l$  proportional to the wavelength. Such a transformation will not satisfy eqn. (2) however, unless the quantity  $\mu\sigma$  is increased in the ratio of the wavelength. With present-day materials this is impossible unless superconductors are employed; indeed, far from  $\mu\sigma$  increasing at decreasing wavelengths, it decreases by the loss in "effective conductivity" (i.e. high-frequency measured value) owing to the deterioration of surface finish relative to the wavelength. The overall result of this is, of course, an increase in the losses of the inert circuit of the scaled oscillator, so that the oscillations become more and more feeble at shorter wavelengths until they eventually cease.

Apart from the somewhat fundamental difficulty mentioned above, there are those mentioned by Pearce.<sup>2</sup> Briefly these are, first, that the electron-beam current varies as the square of the wavelength if present current densities are maintained, and secondly, that the dissipation of heat varies linearly with the wavelength for conduction and as the square of the wavelength for radiation. The deterioration of heat-loss efficiency leads to higher and higher temperatures of components at shorter wavelengths until eventually the melting points of present materials are reached.

These considerations lead to the unhappy conclusion that the scaling of conventional oscillators such as klystrons is unlikely to go very far towards closing the gap in the spectrum. It

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probable that the limit is reached at wavelengths of a few millimetres.

For certain applications, e.g. microwave spectroscopy of gases, it has been possible to retain the advantages of coherent sources of frequency multiplication<sup>5,6</sup> in non-linear elements or by the direct use of harmonics.<sup>7</sup> These techniques are of limited application because of the very low powers involved, but they appear to be capable of reaching wavelengths of between one and two millimetres.

It would appear that progress in this spectral region with coherent oscillators must await some really novel generators or starters. In the meantime, it is necessary to reconsider the practicability of incoherent oscillators for investigations.

## (2) SPARKED RESONATORS

The oldest and most successful generator of short electromagnetic waves is the sparked resonator. One or more resonators of arbitrary shape are placed between a pair of electrodes and sparks are allowed to pass between them. The sparks are accompanied by damped trains of waves of random phase. The prototype of this is the Righi-Hertz dipole, and oscillators of this kind were used very successfully by Nicholls and Tear<sup>9,10</sup> to produce waves about 2mm long as early as 1923. Many other workers have employed sparked resonators.<sup>11-16</sup> Considerable ingenuity has been shown by these workers in developing resonators which can suffer frequent sparking with a minimum of erosion. The resonators of Nicholls and Tear were short thick linear dipoles sealed in glass; Arkadiewa<sup>12,13</sup> used a mixture of metal filings in oil (the so-called "mass radiator"), while Lewitsky,<sup>11</sup> and later Rohrbaugh,<sup>15</sup> used a geometrical array of resonators on a glass plate (the so-called "matrix radiator"); Daunt used lead shot in an oil stream—a variation of the mass radiator.

In spite of the considerable effort expended over nearly half a century, it must be admitted that the phenomena of these sparked oscillators are only vaguely understood. New workers in the field find very little explicit and unequivocal information, and many questions arise immediately. The first is whether all these techniques are the same in principle. The simplest picture of any of them is to imagine an inhomogeneous distribution of charges induced on the resonator by the field between the electrodes; the passage of the spark causes the binding field to collapse, and if the rate of collapse is sufficiently great, there will be an oscillatory redistribution of charge with radiation. Alternatively the resonator may be regarded as a filter which separates out and readily radiates the desired components of frequency contained in the current pulse of the spark.

Such a model is not supported by the experiments of Kelliher and Walton,<sup>17</sup> which suggest that a mechanism exists which tends to maintain the oscillations of the resonator. Further questions arise, such as whether regular and predictable spectra can be obtained with regular resonators; whether the resonators in multiple systems, such as the mass radiator and matrix radiator, oscillate singly or in pairs and groups as suggested by Arkadiewa;<sup>12</sup> the effect of the surrounding medium and whether sparks in air can be used as reported by Rohrbaugh or whether they must be used as in the methods of all other workers; whether efficient power can be generated for useful absorption measurements, and whether the power can be calculated.

Considerable technical advantages would be obtained by using sparks in air. Calculations are simplified because no unknown permittivities are introduced and experiments are simpler. Sparks through oil generate dirty carbon suspensions and chemical impurities, very small amounts of which greatly modify the conditions of experiment. Apart from this, the explosive

nature of a spark in oil precludes the possibility of rigidly mounting resonators while introducing a minimum of perturbation to their characteristic frequencies.

There is not, so far, sufficient experimental evidence to answer all the questions precisely, particularly since the reports in the literature are often fragmentary as to method and frequently contradictory. An effort is made in the following Sections to obtain the maximum amount of information from some of the reports. As is well known, boundary-value problems involving cylinders and rods are not easy to solve, and so it will be necessary to obtain most of the information from experiments using spheres, since these provide the opportunity to compare the experimental results with theories which may be derived.

## (3) SPECTRUM RADIATED BY A SPHERE

It has long been known<sup>18,19</sup> that the natural oscillations of a perfectly conducting sphere in its lowest mode are described by the function

$$\exp(-i\omega t) = \exp\left(-\frac{0.5}{a} \mp i\frac{0.86}{a}\right)\sqrt{(\epsilon\mu)t} \quad (3)$$

where  $\epsilon$  and  $\mu$  are the permittivity and permeability of the medium in which the sphere is embedded. The damping term in the expression arises from the radiation which is so efficient that the introduction of the finite conductivity of the sphere into the expression has little effect.

If the radiation from a sparked sphere were entirely due to the redistribution of charges freed by the removal of the field, the radiated field might be expected to have the same form, namely

$$E(t) = 0, \quad t < 0$$

$$E(t) = \epsilon^{-\alpha} \sin \omega_0 t \quad \dots \quad (4)$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{0.5}{0.86\omega_0}$$

The Fourier transform of this wave is

$$G(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E(t)\epsilon^{-i\omega t} dt \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

and the power product is

$$G(\omega)G^*(\omega) = \frac{\omega_0^2}{4\pi^2[(\alpha^2 + \omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\alpha^2\omega^2]} \quad (6)$$

So that the power radiated in the frequency range

$$\omega - \frac{\Delta\omega}{2} < \omega < \omega + \frac{\Delta\omega}{2}$$

is given by

$$P(\omega) = \frac{\omega_0^2 \Delta\omega}{4\pi^2[(\alpha^2 + \omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\alpha^2\omega^2]} \quad \dots \quad (7)$$

For gratings and spectrometers generally, it can be assumed—at least over a small range—that the resolving power is a constant, i.e.

$$\Delta\omega/\omega = m$$

so that eqn. (7) becomes

$$P(\omega) = \frac{\omega_0^2}{4\pi^2[(\alpha^2 + \omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\alpha^2\omega^2]} \omega m \quad (7a)$$

and the apparent-power distribution curve becomes

$$\frac{P(\omega)}{P(\omega_0)} = \frac{\alpha^2(\alpha^2 - 4\omega_0^2)\omega}{[(\alpha^2 + \omega_0^2 - \omega^2)^2 + 4\alpha^2\omega^2]\omega_0} \quad \dots \quad (8)$$



Eqn. (8) can be rearranged and normalized by the substitution  $\alpha = n\omega_0$  to the form

$$\frac{P(\omega)}{P(\omega_0)} = \frac{n^2(n^2 + 4)\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)}{\left[n^2 + 1 - \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2\right]^2 + 4n^2\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2} \quad (9)$$

This function, with the value of  $n$  appropriate to spheres, is shown in Fig. 1. The points in triangles are obtained from the experimental results of Daunt *et al.*<sup>16</sup>

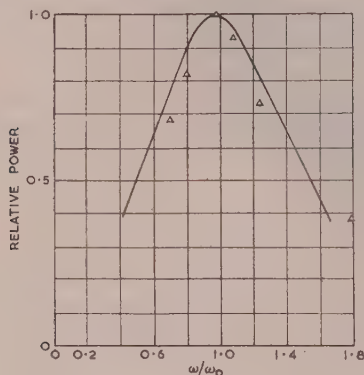


Fig. 1.—Theoretical curve of spectral distribution of energy.

Δ Normalized values from Daunt *et al.*

The experimental points appear to suggest a spectrum slightly narrower than the theoretical one. It should be remembered, however, that the detector used was almost certainly not uniform in its response, probably falling off in sensitivity at shorter wavelengths, and that the grating efficiency probably declines at long wavelengths (i.e. large angles of diffraction). The high point at  $\omega/\omega_0 = 1.8$  can probably be ascribed to harmonic radiation.

On the whole, the agreement between the experimental results and the predictions of the simple theory are surprisingly good. The agreement strongly suggests that if there is an oscillation-maintaining effect in the spark it has negligible effect. The point may be raised as to whether the effect observed by Kelliher and Walton<sup>17</sup> was due to filtering, possibly through some resonance in the detector assembly.

Information of interest in another field of physics appears to be derivable from this result. It is implicit in eqn. (4) that the binding field is removed instantaneously. In practice, of course, this is not so, as the field decays in the time of build-up of the spark. The agreement found above suggests then that the time of breakdown is not greater than a quarter of a period of the waves used by Daunt *et al.*,<sup>16</sup> i.e. the breakdown time in the oil used by them may well have been less than  $4 \times 10^{-12}$  sec.

#### (4) THE AVAILABLE POWER

The success of the simple picture in predicting the frequency radiated by the sparked spheres suggests that it may also be used to calculate the available power.

The charge distribution on a metallic sphere between spherical electrodes presents a problem of considerable complexity which it is not worth while to solve accurately in the present case. A sufficient approximation is obtained by considering the sphere to be immersed in a homogeneous field. It is known that a field  $E$  through a medium with permittivity  $\epsilon$  will induce in a conducting sphere of radius  $a$  a dipole moment  $p$ , where

$$p = 4\pi\epsilon Ea^3 \text{ (in M.K.S. units)} \quad (10)$$

The potential energy of this dipole is

$$W = pE \quad (11)$$

and presumably this is the maximum amount of energy that can be radiated in a single discharge. The appropriate value of  $E$  is the breakdown field strength of the medium in which the sphere is immersed. If there are  $s$  discharges per second the average power radiated is

$$P = pE\eta s \\ = 4\pi\epsilon\eta sE^2 \quad (12)$$

where  $\eta$  is the efficiency, i.e. the ratio of energy radiated to the original energy of the sphere. (The absence of significant damping from the radiated spectrum suggests that  $\eta$  is very large—nearly 100%.)

It was stated earlier that it is desirable to carry out experiments with sparks in air, so that it is now worth while inserting some possible values in eqn. (11).

Taking  $E = 3 \times 10^5$  volts/m

$$\epsilon = \frac{1}{36\pi} \times 10^{-9} \text{ farad/m}$$

$$a = 2.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ metre}$$

$$\eta = 1$$

Eqn. (11) yields

$$W = 16 \times 10^{-11} \text{ joule per spark per sphere}$$

and from eqn. (12),

$$P = 10^{-7} \text{ watt, for 3 spheres at 200 c/s.}$$

This is a very small signal, but it may be in considerable error for several reasons. The first is, of course, that the breakdown strength of air may greatly exceed  $3 \times 10^5$  volts/m if sufficient sharp rising pulses are used; secondly it may not be correct to assume that  $\eta$  is nearly unity, as an increase in damping may be obscured by the experimental effects referred to in Section 3.

Not all the energy radiated can be used for measurement. If an optical spectrometer is used, there are the apertures of radiating and detecting mirrors and the relative inefficiencies of diffraction gratings. (It would be unwise to use an echelle grating of high efficiency with such a wide spectrum, since error of interpretation would arise through the overlapping of higher order diffraction maxima.) It is estimated that the signal due to all frequencies in a single order would be reduced to about 5% of its original value through these causes alone.

Dispersion of the spectrum to give a usefully narrow line by a grating of, say, 100 lines (i.e.  $\Delta\omega/\omega = 1/100$ ) leads to a resolved power at centre frequency,  $\omega_0$ , of

$$\frac{P(\omega_0)\Delta\omega_0}{\int_0^\infty P(\omega)d\omega} \approx \frac{1}{50} \quad (13)$$

These corrections lead to a resolved power in the experiment proposed of  $10^{-10}$  watt. Even this ignores the possibility of smaller signals due to inadequate deionization of the gap at 200 c/s, and further, the difficulty of focusing all the energy on the detector since the detector size is not fixed.

#### (5) DETECTORS

A practical difficulty in working in this part of the spectrum is that the properties of detectors are unknown and remain so.

til known amounts of power can be generated and properly attenuated. In the absence of single-frequency oscillators, it is, of course, impossible to use the sensitive techniques of superheterodyne detection. Consequently, it is necessary to fall back on either thermal detectors or crystal rectification.

Thermal detectors, such as the Golay cell,<sup>23</sup> have a sensitivity of about  $5 \times 10^{-11}$  watt in the infra-red region, but it is not known whether this sensitivity is maintained at wavelengths of about a millimetre. On the whole, it is suspected that it is not, because of the effect of aperture size and resonant effects in the cavity. A characteristic of this type of detector is its long time-constant (about  $\frac{1}{10}$  sec), which not only makes for tedious experiment but is a real disadvantage with sparked oscillators whose life is very short.

An interesting extension of the normal use of crystal detectors for this type of problem has been made by Dickey<sup>20</sup> using a result of Montgomery.<sup>21</sup> It is found that if a pulse of duration  $\tau$  and amplitude  $V_1$  is incident on a filter of bandwidth  $B$ , the output pulse is of amplitude  $V_2$ , where

$$V_2 = \frac{3}{2} B \tau A_1 \quad (14)$$

$B$  is much less than the spectral width of the incident pulse.

The output pulse of a crystal is proportional to the input power,

$$V_1 = \gamma P$$

where  $\gamma$  is a constant of proportionality in volts per watt, and  $P$  is the input power, so that eqn. (14) may be written

$$V_2 = \frac{3}{2} \tau B \gamma P$$

$$V_2 = \frac{3}{2} B \gamma W \quad (15)$$

where  $W = P\tau$  is the pulse energy.

If the spreading resistance of the crystal is small compared with the non-linear barrier resistance, and if the frequency is in excess of a few thousand megacycles per second,  $\gamma$  is expected to vary as the square of the frequency.<sup>20,22</sup> Extrapolation of characteristic properties to wavelengths near a millimetre suggests that  $\gamma$  will be approximately equal to 100 mV/watt.

The use of such a crystal with a single-sphere pulse, as calculated in the previous Section, would lead to a signal of very nearly 100  $\mu$ V for the direct signal having a bandwidth of 4 Mc/s. After frequency separation by the grating, this signal would be reduced to about 0.1  $\mu$ V.

While it must be realized that the results given are, at best, approximations, it will be appreciated that the prospect of obtaining useful amounts of power in this part of the spectrum is not great. However, the calculations are based on the most simple hypothesis, and although this has received partial confirmation through the spectrum experiments, it has to be faced that experiments have been reported using sparks in air. Consequently the calculation above cannot be accepted until further experimental work has been done.

## EXPERIMENTS AT THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Attempts to verify the predictions of the simple theory of the sparked resonators in air with a matrix radiator were not wholly successful. Hard steel balls tuned to 1.8 mm were mounted on a glass plate. (The resonators of Lewitsky were fixed to a glass plate with Canada balsam, and the irregular chromium particles of Cooley and Rohrbaugh were partially embedded in the glass.) In the present case very small indentations were etched in the glass; the indentations were filled with a thermosetting plastic adhesive to bind the metal spheres without immersing them in the adhesive itself.

It was found that these assemblies of resonators had a limited life owing either to the erosion of the spheres or, more rarely, to failure of the adhesive. It was also found that, depending on the current allowed to pass in the spark, the life was limited by a change in the surface of the glass at high spark rates. This change, which was not permanent, appeared to be due to heating of the glass surface providing a conducting path, so that the discharge no longer took place through the air but over the surface. The attainable voltage was considerably reduced, and the glass frequently cracked under these conditions.

The voltage source was a pulse modulator similar to those used for magnetrons. The pulse length was either 2.5 or 5 microsec, and the pulse repetition frequency was variable. The source and detector were located at the foci of 20 in aperture front-silvered mirrors. Gratings were made from tin-foil mounted on expanded Bakelite sheet.

Attempts made with a Golay cell<sup>23</sup> were wholly unsuccessful, while experiments with a crystal detector were not much better, but some results were obtained. The signal from the crystal was amplified in a 4 Mc/s bandwidth amplifier at 60 Mc/s and displayed on a high-speed oscillograph. This oscillograph display was a considerable advantage, as it enabled the signal due to the spheres themselves to be separated from other unshielded signals accompanying the discharge.

Signals obtained with the grating in the zero-order (specular reflection) setting were of the order of 200  $\mu$ V input to the amplifier. No signals could be detected in the dispersed spectrum from the grating. Attempts made to discover the frequency of the radiation by using a Boltzmann<sup>24</sup> interferometer were unsuccessful owing to the extreme fluctuations in signal amplitude; indeed it was impossible to learn by this means anything more than that the wavelength was considerably less than 1 cm.

While a measurement of wavelength would be definite proof of the nature of the radiation, there is nevertheless no doubt that the radiation emanated from the spheres themselves. This is shown by experiments with shielding and by the fact that the signal disappeared if the spheres were removed from the spark. (That this was not due to a change in the conditions of the spark was shown by readjusting the gap between electrodes to the same dimensions as that formerly existing between the spheres.)

It was found that the signal amplitude increased with the number of spheres up to about three; however, this increase appeared to be less than linear with the number of spheres. This is to be expected, of course, because of the difficulty of focusing an extended line-source on the crystal. On the other hand, it suggests that the effect of cascaded breakdown of the gaps is probably less than might have been expected.

These experiments appear to confirm, at least in part, the consequences of the hypothesis. The position is not wholly clear, of course, since considerable extrapolation was used and many assumptions were made. It is extremely unlikely, in fact, that the breakdown strength of air is as low under pulse conditions as has been assumed, so that either the radiation process is less efficient than assumed or the detector is less sensitive. Both may be true. On the whole, however, the agreement is felt to be good.

In spite of this conclusion, the fact remains that another group of workers has made successful experiments with a dispersed spectrum from sparks in air, and since this represents, at first sight, a contradiction of the theory, it is necessary to examine their results in more detail.

## (7) EXPERIMENTS OF COOLEY AND ROHRBAUGH, ET AL.

The transmission curves shown in Fig. 2 were obtained at New York using an array of irregular chromium particles embedded in a glass plate. Sparks were passed through the air



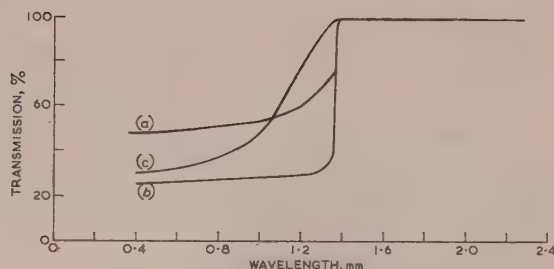


Fig. 2.—Transmission curves for polystyrene obtained by Cooley and Rohrbaugh, *et al.*

- (a)  $\frac{1}{4}$  in sheet.  
(b) Two  $\frac{1}{4}$  in sheets together.  
(c)  $\frac{1}{2}$  in sheet from another manufacturer.

This diagram is reproduced from *Journal of Applied Physics*, 1948, 19, p. 1093.

between the particles. The spectrum was dispersed by a grating. It is understood that a thermal detector was used. The transmission measurements were made on flat sheets  $\frac{1}{4}$  in thick.

Several features of these curves should be noted. The first is the quite unexpected very sharp edge in the Amphenol samples. The very high transmission at wavelengths greater than 1.3 mm is surprising in view of the necessary reflection losses. A final observation is the absence of interference maxima and minima, particularly in the transparent region of the curves; it is unlikely that these effects would be beyond the resolution of the spectrometer employed. (Transmission is claimed to be measured to 5%, so that such effects should be readily observable in a material with the permittivity of polystyrene.)

McCubbin<sup>25</sup> has measured the properties of polystyrene with his long-wave infra-red spectrometer, and these results are presented in Fig. 3, together with those of Cooley and Rohrbaugh,

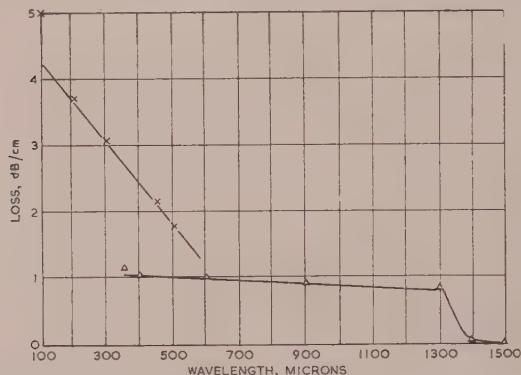


Fig. 3.—Loss in polystyrene.

- × McCubbin.  
△ Cooley and Rohrbaugh.

after conversion to loss per unit length. The agreement does not appear to be good. Other results of McCubbin, e.g. on rock salt, appear to agree with the observations of other workers in the infra-red and in the radio spectrum.

It would seem from these remarks that the measurements made by Cooley and Rohrbaugh can only be accepted with considerable caution.

Presumably those workers could have achieved greater radiated powers than in the present work by the use of faster rising voltages, although there is probably not a great gain since even the fastest rising pulses will be considerably rounded by the capacitance of the spheres. Furthermore, any increase in energy due to this cause would be considerably offset by the use of

irregular particles, as irregularities would decrease the breakdown voltage and also distribute the energy over a wider spectrum.

## (8) CONCLUSION

It is unfortunate that neither the experiments at the Imperial College of Science and Technology nor those carried out overseas are wholly conclusive, but it is felt that the weight of evidence in favour of the simplest hypothesis. Since one of the consequences of this hypothesis is that sufficient power for measurement purposes is unlikely to be obtained using sparks in air, there seems to be little point in pursuing this line of research.

There can be no doubt that the sparking of resonators in oil is successful, as shown by Nicholls and Tear and later by Dauvin *et al.* There is scope for quantitative work on the energy radiated by these systems, and for research into the speed of breakdown of the oil. A final conclusion is that a considerable improvement in the performance of mass radiators could be obtained by using regular spherical radiators instead of the irregular metal filings used by Glagolewa-Arkadiewa.

## (9) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# THE RADIATION OF A HERTZIAN DIPOLE OVER A COATED CONDUCTOR

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## SUMMARY

The idealized problems of an infinitesimal Hertzian dipole in and over a perfect dielectric coating a perfect conductor and an Abraham dipole lying on the conductor are treated. Unintegrated forms of the Hertz potentials are obtained both for electric and magnetic dipoles.

Integrated far-zone forms of the potentials and fields are obtained for electric dipoles by means of asymptotic integrations. Far-zone radiation patterns are given in order to indicate the distortions of the fields and the magnitudes of the residue waves caused by the dielectric coatings. These show that such layers cause a very large increase in the relative field strength in the direction along the surface.

It is proved that the power radiated by the dipole may be divided into two independent quantities—the power fed to radiation-type and that fed to surface or guided-type fields. For certain cases numerical results are given for the total power radiated and the relative powers fed to the two types of fields.

Formulae are derived and illustrated with numerical examples of the radiation resistances of the dipoles and the attenuation coefficients of the surface modes due to finite conductivity of the ground plane.

## LIST OF PRINCIPAL SYMBOLS

$B$  = Magnetic flux-density, webers/m<sup>2</sup>.

$d$  = Thickness of the dielectric layer, m.

$E$  = Electric force, volts/m.

$J$  = Impressed current density, amp/m<sup>2</sup>.

$l$  = Quasi-surface current, amp/m.

$M(\theta)$  = Relative magnitude of the  $\theta$ -component of the electric force with respect to its maximum value.

$n$  = Refractive index, or the square root of the relative permittivity of the dielectric layer with respect to that of the space above the dielectric layer.

$P$  = Power, watts.

$T$  = Impressed polarization density, coulombs/m<sup>2</sup>.

$r, \Phi, z$  = Cylindrical co-ordinates, m, rad, m.

$R, \theta, \Phi$  = Spherical co-ordinates, m, rad, rad.

$R^e$  = Radiation resistance, ohms.

$v = (\epsilon\mu)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  = Characteristic velocity of the half-space above the dielectric layer, m/sec.

$z'$  =  $z$ -co-ordinate of the dipole source, m.

$p(z')$  = Vertical Hertzian dipole at  $r = 0, z = z'$ , coulomb-m.

$m(z')$  = Vertical magnetic dipole at  $r = 0, z = z'$ , amp/m<sup>2</sup>.

$\alpha$  = Attenuation coefficient, nepers/m.

$\beta = \omega\sqrt{(\epsilon\mu)}$  = Characteristic phase-change coefficient of the half space above the dielectric layer, rad/m.

$n\beta$  = Characteristic phase-change coefficient of the dielectric region, rad/m.

$\delta(z - z')$  = Dirac delta-function.

$\epsilon$  = Permittivity of the half space above the dielectric layer, farad/m.

$\lambda_j$  = Cylindrical radial ( $r$ -directed) propagation constant of a surface guided mode, rad/m.

$\mu$  = Magnetic permeability of the dielectric layer and the space above it, henrys/m.

$\sigma$  = Conductivity, mhos.

$\psi$  =  $z$ -component of the electric Hertz vector, volt-sec.

$\psi_m$  =  $z$ -component of the magnetic Hertz vector, volt-sec.

$\omega = 2\pi \times \text{frequency}$ , rad/sec.

$\nabla^2$  = Laplace operator.

$\mathcal{I}$  = Imaginary part of a complex quantity.

$\mathcal{R}$  = Real part of a complex quantity.

Superscript  $F$  denotes the far-zone component of the quantity which the superscript is attached.

Superscript  $G$  denotes that the quantity is characteristic of a surface-guided wave.

Superscript  $r$  denotes that the quantity is characteristic of a spherical or radiated wave.

Subscript  $A$  indicates that the source is in the space above the dielectric layer.

Subscript  $B$  indicates that the source is in the dielectric layer.

Subscript  $C$  indicates that the source is an Abraham dipole lying on the conductor.

Subscript  $j$  refers to the  $j$ th guided mode.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

A study of the coated conductor problem was undertaken as an effort to explain certain characteristics of an antenna field pattern obtained from measurements taken over an aluminium ground screen. The effect of the finite conductivity of aluminium did not yield an adequate explanation of the observed characteristics near the ground screen, and subsequent measurements showed that the phenomenon could be emphasized by the addition of a dielectric layer to the ground plane. Since a dielectric-coated metallic surface can support a guided wave, of any thickness of coating, it was deduced that the thin coating of aluminium oxide present on the ground screen was responsible for the behaviour.

The idealized problem involves a uniform layer of perfect dielectric covering an infinite, perfectly-conducting plane; a Hertzian dipole is in one of three positions: Case A, above the dielectric; Case B, in the dielectric; or Case C, an Abraham dipole on the plane, Fig. 1. Unintegrated expressions are derived for the Hertz potentials in and above the dielectric due to both vertical electric and magnetic dipoles. For the special cases of vertical electric dipoles in or near fairly thin dielectric coatings the integrated forms of the far-zone fields are obtained. Marcuvitz<sup>1</sup> has derived a similar expression for the Hertz potentials above the dielectric due to a dipole above but near a thin dielectric coating, by a somewhat different method. The mathematical details of this problem are similar to those of the vertical dipole over a conducting earth.<sup>2,3</sup>

The resulting fields, comprising a radiated-type wave (a compensating wave) and one or more guided-type waves, have

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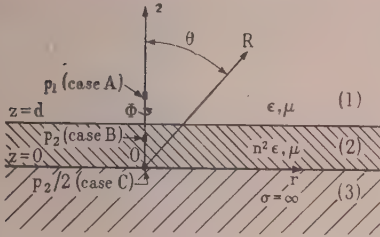


Fig. 1.—Cross-section of the coated perfect conductor showing the co-ordinate system used.

are combined at a typical distance for a polystyrene coating to yield field patterns. Several examples of these are given illustrating the distortion of the patterns due to dielectric layers. To illustrate further this distortion, expressions are derived for the total power output of the dipole, the ratio of the powers in the guided and radiated waves, and the radiation resistances of the dipoles. Where possible in the illustrative curves of these expressions, comparison curves for metal surfaces without electric coatings are given. In addition, the expression for the attenuation coefficients of the guided waves due to finite but large conductivities of the conducting plane is derived. No attempt is made in the paper to compute the attenuation due to conductivity of the dielectric. A close approximation to this attenuation is given by Attwood.<sup>4</sup>

## (2) FORMULATION

Let an infinitesimal electric Hertzian dipole, a magnetic dipole, or an Abraham dipole be oriented along and parallel to the  $z$ -axis of the cylindrical co-ordinate system  $r, \Phi, z$ , Fig. 1. This system is independent of  $\Phi$ . Region 1,  $d \leq z \leq \infty$ , with constants  $\epsilon, \mu, \sigma = 0$ , is the space above the dielectric; region 2, with constants  $n^2\epsilon, \mu, \sigma = 0$ ,  $0 \leq z \leq d$ , is the dielectric region; and region 3,  $z \leq 0$  is a perfect conductor with  $\sigma = \infty$ . The electric constant of medium 2 relative to that of medium 1 is  $n^2$ , where  $n$  is the index of refraction.

As is well known, the electromagnetic field excited by electric or magnetic sources oriented in the  $z$ -direction of a cylindrical co-ordinate system may be derived from the  $z$ -components of the electric or magnetic Hertz vectors. Hence, the problem will be formulated in terms of these components.

The problem is subdivided into five divisions according to the positions of the dipoles and to whether the electric or magnetic case is treated. The harmonic time dependence,  $e^{j\omega t}$ , is assumed throughout and is suppressed in all expressions.

### Vertical Electric Dipoles.

**Case A.** A Hertzian dipole above the dielectric at  $d \leq z' \leq \infty$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\nabla^2 \psi_1 + \beta^2 \psi_1 = -\frac{p_1(z')\delta(z-z')\delta(r)}{2\pi\epsilon r} \quad \text{region 1} \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi_2 + n^2 \beta^2 \psi_2 = 0 \quad \text{region 2} \quad (2)$$

**Case B.** A Hertzian dipole in the dielectric at  $0 < z' \leq d$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\nabla^2 \psi_1 + \beta^2 \psi_1 = 0 \quad \text{region 1} \quad (3)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi_2 + n^2 \beta^2 \psi_2 = -\frac{p_2(z')\delta(z-z')\delta(r)}{2\pi n^2 \epsilon r} \quad \text{region 2} \quad (4)$$

**Case C.** An Abraham dipole on the ground plane at  $z' = 0$ ,  $r' = 0$ . An Abraham dipole is half a Hertzian dipole which with its image forms a Hertzian dipole.

$$\nabla^2 \psi_1 + \beta^2 \psi_1 = 0 \quad \text{region 1} \quad (5)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi_1 + n^2 \beta^2 \psi_2 = -\frac{p_2(0)\delta(z)\delta(r)}{4\pi n^2 \epsilon r} \quad \text{region 2} \quad (6)$$

The appropriate boundary conditions are

$$(a) \quad \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial z}(r, d, z') = \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial z}(r, d, z') \quad (7a)$$

$$(b) \quad \epsilon \psi_1(r, d, z') = n^2 \epsilon \psi_2(r, d, z') \quad (7b)$$

$$(c) \quad \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial z}(r, 0, z') = 0 \quad (7c)$$

(d) The Sommerfeld condition of radiation,<sup>5,6</sup> where

$\psi_1(r, z, z')$  is the  $z$ -component of the electric Hertz vector in region 1.

$\psi_2(r, z, z')$  is the  $z$ -component of the electric Hertz vector in region 2.

The  $E$ - and  $B$ -fields are determined from these by

$$\begin{Bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \end{Bmatrix} = -\hat{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial z} \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{Bmatrix} + \hat{z} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + \beta^2 \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ n^2 \end{Bmatrix} \right) \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} B_1 \\ B_2 \end{Bmatrix} = -\hat{\Phi} j \frac{\beta^2}{\omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_1 \\ n^2 \psi_2 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

The upper quantities in the brackets are valid in region 1, and the lower quantities in region 2.

$$\beta = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon \mu}.$$

$n^2$  = Relative dielectric constant of region 2 with respect to region 1.

$$\begin{Bmatrix} p_1(z') \\ p_2(z') \end{Bmatrix} \text{ is a vertical Hertzian dipole at } z' \begin{cases} d \leq z' \leq \infty \\ 0 < z' \leq d \end{cases}$$

$p_2(0)/2$  is an Abraham dipole at  $z' = 0$ .

$\nabla^2 = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$  = The Laplacian operator in the cylindrical co-ordinate system with no  $\Phi$ -dependence.

$\frac{\delta(z-z')\delta(r)}{2\pi r}$  is the Dirac delta-function for a source at  $z = z', r = 0$ .

### Vertical Magnetic Dipoles.

**Case A.** A magnetic dipole above the dielectric at  $d \leq z' \leq \infty$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\nabla^2 \psi_{m1} + \beta^2 \psi_{m1} = -\frac{\mu m_1(z')\delta(z-z')\delta(r)}{2\pi r} \quad \text{region 1} \quad (11)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi_{m2} + n^2 \beta^2 \psi_{m2} = 0 \quad \text{region 2} \quad (12)$$

**Case B.** A magnetic dipole in the dielectric at  $0 < z' \leq d$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\nabla^2 \psi_{m1} + \beta^2 \psi_{m1} = 0 \quad \text{region 1} \quad (13)$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi_{m2} + n^2 \beta^2 \psi_{m2} = -\frac{\mu m_2(z')\delta(z-z')\delta(r)}{2\pi r} \quad \text{region 2} \quad (14)$$



It should be noted that the problem of a magnetic dipole placed at  $z' = 0$  need not be formulated since, according to the theory of images, it yields fields which are identically zero.

The appropriate boundary conditions are

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (a) \quad \psi_{m1}(r, d, z') &= \psi_{m2}(r, d, z') \\ (b) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \psi_{m1}(r, d, z') &= \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \psi_{m2}(r, d, z') \\ &\text{subject to } \mu_1 = \mu_2 = \mu. \\ (c) \quad \psi_{m2}(r, 0, z') &= 0 \\ (d) \quad \text{The radiation condition,}^{5,6} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (15)$$

where

$\psi_{m1}(r, z, z')$  is the  $z$ -component of the magnetic Hertz vector in region 1  
 $\psi_{m2}(r, z, z')$  is the  $z$ -component of the magnetic Hertz vector in region 2

The  $E$ - and  $B$ -fields are determined from these by

$$\begin{Bmatrix} E_{1m} \\ E_{2m} \end{Bmatrix} = j\omega\hat{\Phi} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_{m1} \\ \psi_{m2} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} B_{m1} \\ B_{m2} \end{Bmatrix} = \hat{z} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + \beta^2 \right) \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_{m1} \\ \psi_{m2} \end{Bmatrix} + \hat{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r \partial z} \begin{Bmatrix} \psi_{m1} \\ \psi_{m2} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

where the subscript  $m$  indicates quantities in the magnetic cases and

$$\left. \begin{aligned} m_1(z') \\ m_2(z') \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ is a vertical magnetic dipole at } z' \begin{cases} d \leq z' \leq \infty \\ 0 < z' \leq d \end{cases}$$

Since the problem is formulated in cylindrical co-ordinates with  $\Phi$ -symmetry it is convenient to apply the well-known Fourier-Bessel or Hankel transform pair<sup>7</sup> for  $\Phi$ -symmetry to eqns. (1)–(6) and (11)–(14).

$$\bar{\psi}(\lambda, z, z') = \int_0^\infty r \psi(r, z, z') J_0(\lambda r) dr \quad (18)$$

$$\psi(r, z, z') = \int_0^\infty \lambda \bar{\psi}(\lambda, z, z') J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad (19)$$

After applying eqn. (18) to eqns. (1)–(6) and (11)–(14), performing an integration by parts, and applying the radiation condition\* to the left-hand sides of these equations, the following results are obtained for the left-hand sides of these equations:

For eqns. (1), (3), (5), (11), (13)—

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - l^2 \right) \bar{\psi}_1 \text{ or } m_1$$

For eqns. (2), (4), (6), (12) and (14)—

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - m^2 \right) \bar{\psi}_2 \text{ or } m_2$$

where  $l^2$  and  $m^2$  are defined by

$$l^2 = \lambda^2 - \beta^2 \quad (20)$$

$$m^2 = \lambda^2 - n^2 \beta^2 \quad (21)$$

After noting that the application of eqn. (18) to the right-hand

sides of eqns. (1), (4), (6), (11) and (14) yields the value  $1/2$  the following transformed equations are obtained:

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - l^2 \right) \left. \begin{aligned} \bar{\psi}_1 &= -\frac{p_1(z') \delta(z - z')}{2\pi\epsilon} \\ \bar{\psi}_1 &= 0 \\ \bar{\psi}_1 &= 0 \\ \bar{\psi}_{m1} &= -\frac{\mu m_1(z') \delta(z - z')}{2\pi} \\ \bar{\psi}_{m1} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2)$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - m^2 \right) \left. \begin{aligned} \bar{\psi}_2 &= 0 \\ \bar{\psi}_2 &= -\frac{p_2(z') \delta(z - z')}{2\pi n^2 \epsilon} \\ \bar{\psi}_2 &= -\frac{p_2(0) \delta(z)}{4\pi n^2 \epsilon} \\ \bar{\psi}_{m2} &= 0 \\ \bar{\psi}_{m2} &= -\frac{\mu m_2(z') \delta(z - z')}{2\pi} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (2)$$

These are the transformed forms of eqns. (1), (3), (5), (11) and (13), and (2), (4), (6), (12) and (14) respectively. They satisfy boundary conditions (7) (a)–(d) and (15) (a)–(d), as can be seen from eqns. (18) and (19), assuming that the order of integration and differentiation, with respect to  $z$ , may be interchanged.

According to the physical considerations of these problems it is convenient to substitute the following forms in eqns. (2) and (23). If these satisfy the equations and boundary conditions, they are the unique solutions of the problems except for an arbitrary constant in time.<sup>8</sup> The subscripts indicate the equation to which each trial solution belongs.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \epsilon \bar{\psi}_1(\lambda, z, z') \\ \bar{\psi}_{m1}(\lambda, z, z') \\ \bar{\psi}_2(\lambda, z, z') \\ \bar{\psi}_{m2}(\lambda, z, z') \end{aligned} \right\} = \frac{1}{4\pi l} e^{-l|z - z'|} + B(\lambda, z') e^{-l(z + z' - 2d)} e^{-2md} + C(\lambda, z') e^{-l(z + z' - 2d)} \quad (2)$$

where the first term on the right-hand side is the incident wave or the wave radiated by an isolated source, the second term is wave reflected from the metal surface, and the third term is wave reflected from the dielectric surface.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \epsilon \bar{\psi}_2(\lambda, z, z') \\ \bar{\psi}_{m2}(\lambda, z, z') \end{aligned} \right\} = \frac{p_1(z')}{\mu m_1(z')} = D(\lambda, z') e^{-[l|d - z'| + m(d - z)]} + E(\lambda, z') e^{-[l|d - z'| + m(d + z)]} \quad (2)$$

\* The quantity  $\left[ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} J_0(\lambda r) - \psi \lambda J_1(\lambda r) \right]_{r=0}^{r=\infty}$  appears after the integration by parts. This disappears identically at  $r = 0$  and at  $r = \infty$  the radiation condition<sup>5,6</sup> requires its disappearance.

where the first term is a wave transmitted into the dielectric and the second term is a wave reflected from the metal surface.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{n^2 \epsilon \bar{\psi}_2(\lambda, z, z')}{(B)} \\ \frac{p_2(z')}{(C)} \\ \frac{n^2 \epsilon \bar{\psi}_2(\lambda, z, 0)}{(B)} \\ \frac{p_2(0)}{(C)} \end{array} \right\} = \frac{1}{4\pi m} e^{-m|z-z'|} + F(\lambda, z') e^{-m(2d-z-z')} + G(\lambda, z') e^{-m(z+z')} \quad z' = 0 \text{ for case C} \quad (26)$$

where the first term is the incident wave, the second term is a wave reflected from the boundary  $z = d$ , and the third term is a wave reflected from the metal boundary.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{n^2 \epsilon \bar{\psi}_1(\lambda, z, z')}{(B)} \\ \frac{p_2(z')}{(C)} \\ \frac{2n^2 \epsilon \bar{\psi}_1(\lambda, z, 0)}{(B)} \\ \frac{p_2(0)}{(C)} \\ \frac{\bar{\psi}_{m1}(\lambda, z, z')}{(B)} \\ \frac{\mu m_2(z')}{(C)} \end{array} \right\} = H(\lambda, z') e^{-l(z-d)} \quad (27)$$

where the term on the right-hand side represents a wave radiated from the dielectric surface.

It may be observed that the left-hand sides of eqns. (24)–(27) are the Green's functions for eqns. (22)–(23). The proper choice of the coefficients of the first terms on the right-hand sides of eqns. (24) and (26) guarantees that these equations satisfy the conditions for the Green's functions at  $z = z'$ .

Substituting eqns. (24)–(27) in their proper boundary conditions (7)(a)–(d) or (15)(a)–(d), it may be verified that the trial solutions (24)–(27) indeed do satisfy the boundary conditions. Evaluating the constants from  $B(\lambda, z')$  to  $H(\lambda, z')$  yields the transformed Hertz potentials. Applying the Fourier-Bessel integral, (19), rearranging the resulting integrals, and using eqn. (28),<sup>9</sup> yield the Hertz potentials, (29)–(38), which are the solutions to eqns. (1)–(6) and (11)–(14).

$$\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{J_0(\lambda r) e^{-|z|\sqrt{\lambda^2 - k^2}}}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 - k^2}} \lambda d\lambda = \frac{e^{-jk\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}}}{4\pi\sqrt{r^2 + z^2}} \quad (28)$$

#### Vertical Electric Dipoles.

##### Case A.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_1(r, z, z') \\ (A) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{p_1(z')}{4\pi\epsilon} \left[ \frac{e^{-j\beta R'}}{R'} - \frac{e^{-j\beta R''}}{R''} + 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\cosh m d e^{-l(z+z'-2d)}}{M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \right] \quad \text{region 1} \quad (29)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_2(r, z, z') \\ (A) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{p_1(z')}{2\pi\epsilon n^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{\cosh m z e^{-l(z'-d)}}{M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad \text{region 2} \quad (30)$$

##### Case B.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_1(r, z, z') \\ (B) \end{array} \right\} = \psi_2(r, z', z) p_2 \frac{p_2(z')}{p_1(z')} = \frac{p_2(z')}{2\pi\epsilon n^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{\cosh m z' e^{-l(z-d)}}{M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad \text{region 1} \quad (31)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_2(r, z, z') \\ (B) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{p_2(z')}{4\pi n^2 \epsilon} \left[ \frac{e^{-jn\beta R'}}{R'} + \frac{e^{-j\beta R^V}}{R^V} - 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{(l - m/n^2) \cosh m z' \cosh m z e^{-md}}{m M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \right] \quad \text{region 2} \quad (32)$$

##### Case C.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_1(r, z, 0) \\ (C) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{p_2(0)}{4\pi\epsilon n^2} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-l(z-d)}}{M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad \text{region 1} \quad (33)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_2(r, z, 0) \\ (C) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{p_2(0)}{4\pi n^2 \epsilon} \left[ \frac{e^{-jn\beta R}}{R} - \int_0^\infty \frac{(l - m/n^2) \cosh m z e^{-md} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda}{m M(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} \right] \quad \text{region 2} \quad (34)$$

#### Vertical Magnetic Dipoles.

##### Case A.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_{m1}(r, z, z') \\ (A) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{\mu m_1(z')}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{e^{-j\beta R'}}{R'} - \frac{e^{-j\beta R''}}{R''} + 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh m d}{N(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} e^{-l(z+z'-2d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \right] \quad \text{region 1} \quad (35)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_{m2}(r, z, z') \\ (A) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{\mu m_1(z')}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh m z}{N(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} e^{-l(z'-d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad \text{region 2} \quad (36)$$

##### Case B.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_{m1}(r, z, z') \\ (B) \end{array} \right\} = \psi_{m2}(r, z', z) \frac{m_2(z')}{m_1(z')} = \frac{\mu m_2(z')}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh m z'}{N(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} e^{-l(z-d)} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \quad \text{region 1} \quad (37)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \psi_{m2}(r, z, z') \\ (B) \end{array} \right\} = \frac{\mu m_2(z')}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{e^{-j\beta R'}}{R'} - \frac{e^{-j\beta R^V}}{R^V} - 2 \int_0^\infty \frac{(l - m) \sinh m z' \sinh m z}{m N(\beta, \lambda, n, d)} e^{-md} \lambda J_0(\lambda r) d\lambda \right] \quad \text{region 2} \quad (38)$$



where  $M(\beta, \lambda, n, d) = l \cosh md + \frac{m}{n^2} \sinh md$  . . . (39)

$N(\beta, \lambda, n, d) = l \sinh md + m \cosh md$  . . . (40)

$R$  is the spherical co-ordinate distance of Figs. 2(a) and 2(c).

$$= \sqrt{r^2 + z^2}$$

$$R' = \sqrt{[r^2 + (z - z')^2]} \quad \text{Fig. 2(a)}$$

$$R'' = \sqrt{[r^2 + (z + z' - 2d)^2]} \quad \text{Fig. 2(a)}$$

$$R^V = \sqrt{[r^2 + (z + z')^2]}$$

It is to be observed in eqns. (29)–(38) that the forms of the integrands of the unintegrated terms indicate that these are

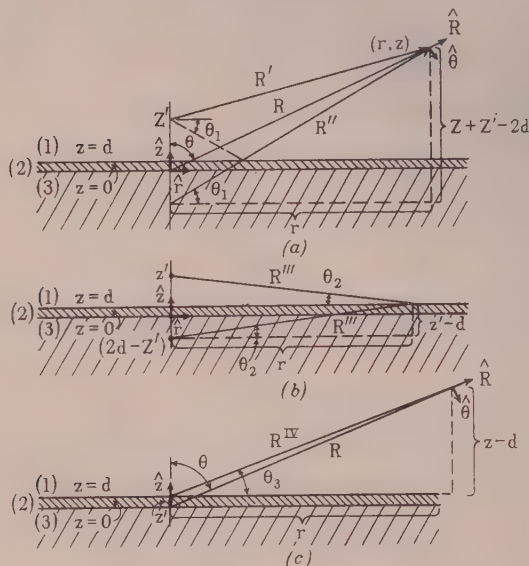


Fig. 2.—Co-ordinates for cases A-1, A-2, B-1, and C-1.

- (a) Case A-1, source in region 1, field in region 1.  
 (b) Case A-2, source in region 1, field in region 2.  
 (c) Cases B-1 and C-1, field in region 1, source in region 2 at  $0 < z' < d$  and  $z' = 0$ , respectively.

standing-wave distributions or multiple reflections of the waves from the dielectric and metal surface in region 2, the dielectric region. The integrated terms indicate that the dipoles are imaged in the dielectric or metal surface.

The  $E$ - and  $B$ -fields may be derived through the application of eqns. (8) and (9) or (16) and (17).

### (3) FAR-ZONE FORMULATIONS OF THE HERTZ POTENTIALS

The Hertz potentials  $\psi_1$  and  $\psi_2$  for vertical electric dipoles are asymptotically integrated to obtain far-zone expressions with the restrictions of thin dielectric coatings. The integrations of eqns. (29)–(31) and eqn. (33), Appendix 13.1, are similar to those performed by Tai<sup>10</sup> and others.<sup>11,12</sup> Eqns. (32) and (34) are integrated using the method of Van der Waerden,<sup>13</sup> Appendix 13.2.

The integrals in eqns. (29)–(34) are transformed to a symmetric form for  $r > 0$ :

$$\int_0^\infty F(\lambda) J_0(\lambda r) \lambda d\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty F(\lambda) H_0^2(\lambda r) \lambda d\lambda \quad . . . (41)$$

through the use of<sup>14</sup>

$$J_0(\lambda r) = \frac{1}{2} [H_0^1(\lambda r) + H_0^2(\lambda r)]$$

and

$$H_0^2(\lambda r) = -H_0^1(-\lambda r)$$

where  $F(\lambda)$  is an even-valued function of  $\lambda$ , and  $H_0^2(\lambda r)$  is chosen in order to yield outward travelling waves for real positive  $\lambda$ .

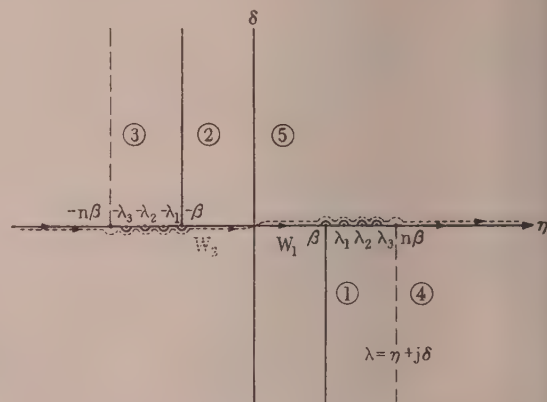


Fig. 3.—Paths of integration in the  $\lambda = n + j\delta$  plane.

The integrands in eqns. (29)–(34) have first-order poles when  $M(\beta, \lambda, n, d) = 0$ , eqn. (39), or for solutions of

$$\pm n^2 \sqrt{(\lambda^2 - \beta^2)} = \pm \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda^2) \tan [d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda^2)}]} \quad (42)$$

Examining eqn. (42) in the light of eqns. (29)–(31), it is found that  $l$  and  $m$  must be either positive real or positive imaginary quantities in order not to violate the radiation condition.<sup>5,6</sup> It is also observed that solutions exist only for the same sign on both sides of eqn. (42) and that the roots, denoted by  $\lambda = \lambda_j$ , must satisfy

$$\beta < \lambda_j < n\beta \quad . . . . . (43)$$

Fig. 4 contains curves of  $\lambda_j/\beta$  versus  $\beta d$ , the electrical dielectric thickness, for  $n^2 = 2.54$ , polystyrene, and for  $n^2 = 2.25$ .

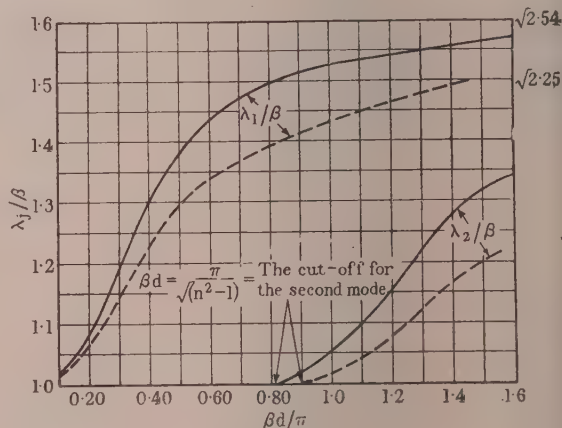


Fig. 4.—Graph of  $\lambda_j/\beta$  versus  $\beta d$ , for  $n^2 = 2.54$  and  $2.25$ ,  $0.10\pi \leq \beta d \leq 1.6\pi$ .  
 —  $n^2 = 2.54$ , ---  $n^2 = 2.25$ .

polyethylene, in the range  $0.10\pi \leq \beta d \leq 1.6\pi$ . Eqn. (42) has at least one solution for all  $\beta d$ ,  $\beta d > 0$ . A new solution or root  $\lambda_k$  appears when

$$\beta d = \frac{k\pi}{\sqrt{(n^2 - 1)}} \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n \quad . . . . . (44)$$

Henceforth  $k$  will designate the number of solutions of eqn. (42) for a given  $\beta d$ .

The integrands in eqns. (29)–(31) and (33) have branch points  $l = 0$  or  $\lambda = \pm \beta$ , (1) and (2) in Fig. 3, and at  $\lambda = 0$ , (5) in Fig. 3, and poles at  $\lambda = \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ . Upon examination of the integrals for slightly complex  $\beta$  and  $n$ , it is seen that the integrals are to be taken over path  $W_1$  in the complex  $\lambda$ -plane of Fig. 3.

The integrands in eqns. (32) and (34) have additional branch points at  $m = 0$ ,  $\lambda = \pm n\beta$ , (3) and (4) in Fig. 3, and in addition the same poles and branch points as the former integrands. These integrals are to be taken over  $W_2$ .

The evaluation of the  $k$  residues and the combination of these with the asymptotic integrations, performed in Appendices 13.1 and 13.2, yield the far-zone Hertz potentials, eqns. (45)–(50), subject to

$$\beta R \gg \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \beta d \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{where } R = \sqrt{r^2 + z^2}$$

$$e^{-R|\beta - \lambda_1|} \ll 0(R^{-2}) \ll 0(R^{-1})$$

$$e^{-R|n\beta - \lambda_k|} \ll 0(R^{-2}) \ll 0(R^{-1})$$

and in other words the poles are not too near the branch points.

The terms in the summations in eqns. (45)–(50) which are due to the evaluation of the residues, are waves which propagate radially and attenuate exponentially in the  $z$ -direction. These waves “hug” the surface and are hence called guided or surface waves. They result as eigenfunctions of the configuration, Fig. 1 excluding  $r = 0$ .<sup>4,16</sup> The remaining terms will be designated as the radiating or compensating waves.

The far-zone Hertz potentials are:

**Case A.** Hertz dipole above the dielectric at  $d \leq z' \leq \infty$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1^F(r, z, z') &= \frac{p_1(z')}{\epsilon} \left\{ \frac{e^{-j\beta R'}}{4\pi R'} - \frac{e^{-j\beta R''}}{4\pi R''} + \frac{P(\theta_1)}{R''} e^{-j\beta R''} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{A_j(\theta_1) Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)}} e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z+z'-2d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \right\} \\ &\quad d \leq z \leq \infty \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_2^F(r, z, z') &= \frac{p_1(z')}{n^2 \epsilon} \left\{ \frac{P(\theta_2) \cos[\beta z \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_2)}]}{R''' \cos[\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_2)}]} e^{-j\beta R'''} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{A_j(\theta_2) Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) \cos[z \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)} \cos[d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \right. \\ &\quad \left. e^{-j\lambda_j r - (z'-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} \right\} \\ &\quad 0 \leq z \leq d \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

**Case B.** Hertz dipole in the dielectric at  $0 \leq z \leq d$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1^F(r, z, z') &= \frac{p_2(z')}{n^2 \epsilon} \left\{ \frac{P(\theta_3) \cos[\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_3)}]}{R^{IV} \cos[\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_3)}]} e^{-j\beta R^{IV}} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{A_j(\theta_3) Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) \cos[z' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)} \cos[d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \right. \\ &\quad \left. e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \right\} \\ &\quad d \leq z \leq \infty \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_2^F(r, z, z') &= \frac{p_2(z')}{\epsilon n^4} \\ &\quad \frac{Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) \cos[z' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] \cos[z \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)} \cos^2[d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} e^{-j\lambda_j r} \\ &\quad 0 \leq z \leq d \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

**Case C.** Abraham dipole on the metal surface at  $z' = 0$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_1^F(r, z, 0) &= \frac{p_2(0)}{2n^2 \epsilon} \left\{ \frac{P(\theta_3) e^{-j\beta R^{IV}}}{R^{IV} \cos[\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_3)}]} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{A_j(\theta_3) Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)} \cos[d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \right\} \\ &\quad d \leq z \leq \infty \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_2^F(r, z, 0) &= \frac{p_2(0)}{2n^4 \epsilon} \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) \cos[z \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\sqrt{(2\pi\lambda_j r)} \cos^2[d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} e^{-j\lambda_j r} \\ &\quad 0 \leq z \leq d \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

where

$$P(\theta)_m = \frac{-j \sin \theta_m}{2\pi \left\{ -j \sin \theta_m + n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_m)} \tan[\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_m)}] \right\}}$$

$$Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) = \frac{\epsilon^{-j\pi/4} \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}}{\beta^2(n^2 - 1) + d \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)} [n^2(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2) + (\beta^2 - \lambda_j^2 n^{-2})]}$$

and  $A_j(\theta_m)$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A_j(\theta_m) &= 0 & \theta_m &> \arccos \beta/\lambda_j \\ A_j(\theta_m) &= \frac{1}{2} & \theta_m &= \arccos \beta/\lambda_j \\ A_j(\theta_m) &= 1 & \theta_m &< \arccos \beta/\lambda_j \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\theta_1 = \arcsin \frac{z + z' - 2d}{R'''} = \arccos \frac{r}{R''}$$

$$R'' = \sqrt{r^2 + (z + z' - 2d)^2} \quad [\text{see Fig. 2(a)}]$$

$$\theta_2 = \arcsin \frac{(z' - d)}{R'''} = \arccos \frac{r}{R'''}.$$

$$R''' = \sqrt{r^2 + (z' - d)^2} \quad [\text{see Fig. 2(b)}]$$

$$\theta_3 = \arcsin \frac{(z - d)}{R^{IV}} = \arccos \frac{r}{R^{IV}}$$

$$R^{IV} = \sqrt{r^2 + (z - d)^2} \quad [\text{see Fig. 2(c)}]$$

If it is assumed that  $\beta z' \ll \beta R'''$ , the first term in eqn. (46) vanishes and  $A_j(\theta_2) \equiv 1$ .

The magnitudes of the fields of the guided modes attenuate with height  $z$  in two ways owing to (a) the exponential or guiding factor  $\exp[-z \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]$ , and to (b) the coefficient  $A_j(\theta_m)$ . The second factor is a function of  $\beta r$ , while the first factor does not depend upon the radius. It may be observed that as  $\beta r$  increases the exponential attenuation takes precedence over the coefficient's attenuation. Fig. 5 contains curves of the minimum radii  $\beta r$ , for each mode, at which the field attenuates to 1% of its maximum value owing to exponential attenuation, at a height  $\beta z$  less than that at which the coefficient  $A_j(\theta_m)$  equals its critical value. These  $\beta r$  are plotted versus  $\beta d$ , in the range  $0.10\pi \leq \beta d \leq 1.6\pi$  and for  $n^2 = 2.54$  and  $2.25$ . For  $\beta r$  greater than these values,  $A_j(\theta_m) \equiv 1$  to within 1% accuracy.

The presence of the factor  $A_j(\theta_m)$  indicates that as  $\beta r$  increases the guided wave acquires more power, until at  $\beta r = \infty$  the total power allotted to it has been attained. Making the assumption that  $A_j(\theta_m)$  is identically unity, for  $\beta r$  greater than the values of Fig. 5, is the same as assuming that the guided wave has acquired its total power at this  $\beta r$ . It is valid to within 0.01% accuracy with respect to the Poynting vector.

Since in the paper the far fields are being investigated, it will be assumed henceforth that  $\beta r (= \beta R \sin \theta)$  is greater than the



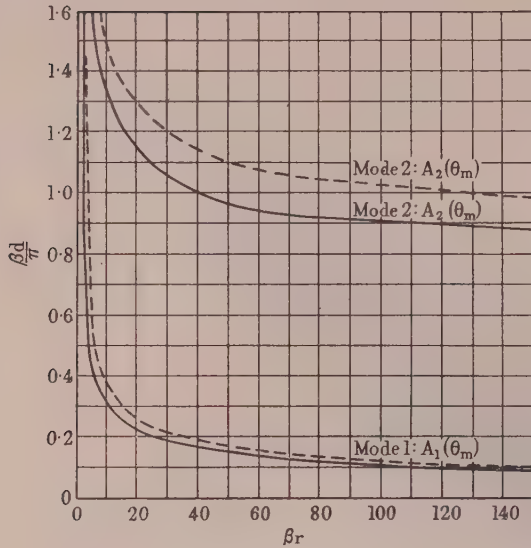


Fig. 5.—Minimum radial distance  $\beta r$  at which the  $A_j(\theta_m)$  coefficients of the surface modes are identically unity for all values of  $z$  as a function of dielectric thickness,  $\beta d$ , for  $0 < \beta d < 1.6\pi$ .

The curves are based upon an accuracy of 1% of the fields and 0.01% of the Poynting vector.

————  $n^2 = 2.54$ , — — — —  $n^2 = 2.25$ .

values of Fig. 5 for each  $\beta d$  being investigated. For this reason the notation  $A_j(\theta_m)$  will be dropped under the assumption that  $A_j(\theta_m) \equiv 1$ .

It is to be observed that, in order for the fields to be identical for sources at  $z' = d+$  and  $z' = d-$ ,  $p_1(d+) = p_2(d-)/n^2$ .

#### (4) THE FAR-ZONE $E$ - AND $B$ -FIELDS

The representations of the far-zone  $E$ - and  $B$ -fields are obtained by applying eqns. (8) and (9) to eqns. (45)–(50). Terms of order higher than  $r^{-1}$  are neglected. The assumption is made that  $\beta z' \ll \beta R$  so that the radiation term in eqn. (46) may be neglected.

It is convenient to represent the radiating terms in spherical co-ordinates. The following substitutions<sup>15</sup> are made in the radiating waves assuming  $\beta R \gg 1$  in Fig. 2.

In the phase factors:

$$\beta R' = \beta R - \beta z' \cos \theta \quad \beta R'' = \beta R - \beta(2d - z') \cos \theta$$

$$\beta R^{IV} = \beta R - \beta d \cos \theta$$

In the amplitude factors:

$$r/R'' = \cos \theta_1 \simeq \sin \theta = r/R \simeq r/R'$$

$$\frac{z + z' - 2d}{R''} = \sin \theta_1 \simeq \cos \theta = z/R \simeq (z - z')/R'$$

$$\beta R' \simeq \beta R'' \simeq \beta R$$

$$\sin \theta_3 = r/R^{IV} \simeq r/R = \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta_3 = r/R^{IV} \simeq r/R = \sin \theta$$

$$\beta R \simeq \beta R^{IV}$$

The substitution of these into eqns. (45)–(50) after eqns. (8) and (9) have been applied leads to the following far-zone fields for vertical dipoles. These are subject to the same restrictions as eqns. (45)–(50) in addition to  $\beta z' \ll \beta R$ .

Case A. Hertz dipole above the dielectric at  $d \leq z' \leq \infty$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

Region 1.

$$E_1^F(r, z, z') = E_1^{Fr} + \sum_{j=1}^k E_{1j}^{FG} \quad (A)$$

$$= -V[\hat{R} \times B_1^{Fr}] + \frac{\omega}{\beta^2} \sum_{j=1}^k [-j\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)} B_{1j}^{FG} \times \hat{z} - \hat{r} \times \lambda_j B_{1j}^{FG}] \quad (A)$$

$$B_1^F(r, z, z') = B_1^{Fr} + \sum_{j=1}^k B_{1j}^{FG} \quad (A)$$

$$= -\hat{\Phi} \frac{p_1(z') \beta^3 \sin \theta [\cos \theta \cos \zeta + S \sin \zeta]}{2\pi R \omega \epsilon} e^{-j\beta(R-d \cos \theta)} \quad (A)$$

$$- \frac{\hat{\Phi} p_1(z') \beta^2}{\omega \epsilon \sqrt{2\pi r}} \sum_{j=1}^k \sqrt{(\lambda_j)} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z+z'-2d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \quad (A)$$

where  $\hat{R}$ ,  $\hat{\theta}$ , and  $\hat{\Phi}$  are spherical co-ordinates.

$\hat{r}$ ,  $\hat{\Phi}$ , and  $\hat{z}$  are cylindrical co-ordinates.

$V = (\epsilon\mu)^{-1/2}$  = the characteristic velocity of medium 1.

$\zeta = \zeta(\beta, d, z', \theta) = \beta(d - z') \cos \theta$ .

$S = S(n, \theta, d, \beta) = n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)} \tan [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)}]$ .

Region 2.

$$E_2^F(r, z, z') = \sum_{j=1}^k E_{2j}^{FG} \quad (A)$$

$$= \frac{\omega}{n^2 \beta^2} \sum_{j=1}^k \left\{ -j\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)} \right.$$

$$\left. \tan [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] B_{2j}^{FG} \times \hat{z} - \hat{r} \times \lambda_j B_{2j}^{FG} \right\} \quad (A)$$

$$B_2^F(r, z, z') = \sum_{j=1}^k B_{2j}^{FG}(r, z, z') \quad (A)$$

$$= -\frac{\hat{\Phi} p_1(z') \beta^2}{\omega \epsilon \sqrt{2\pi r}} \sum_{j=1}^k \sqrt{(\lambda_j)} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \left\{ \frac{\cos [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\cos [d\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \right\} \quad (A)$$

Case B. Hertz dipole in the dielectric at  $0 < z' \leq d$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

Region 1.

$$E_1^F(r, z, z') = E_1^{Fr}(r, z, z') + \sum_{j=1}^k E_{1j}^{FG}(r, z, z') \quad (B)$$

$$= -V(\hat{R} \times B_1^{Fr}) + \frac{\omega}{\beta^2} \sum_{j=1}^k [-j\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)} B_{1j}^{FG} \times \hat{z} - \hat{r} \times \lambda_j B_{1j}^{FG}] \quad (B)$$

$$B_1^F(r, z, z') = B_1^{Fr}(r, z, z') + \sum_{j=1}^k B_{1j}^{FG}(r, z, z') = -\hat{\Phi} \frac{p_2(z') \beta^3}{2\pi \omega n^2 \epsilon R}$$

$$\frac{[\sin \theta \cos \theta] \left\{ \cos [\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)}] e^{-j\beta(R-d \cos \theta)} \right\}}{[\cos \theta + jS] \left\{ \cos [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)}] \right\}}$$

$$- \hat{\Phi} \frac{p_2(z') \beta^2}{\omega n^2 \epsilon \sqrt{2\pi r}} \sum_{j=1}^k \sqrt{(\lambda_j)} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) e^{[-j\lambda_j r - (z-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}]} \frac{\cos [z'\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\cos [d\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \quad (B)$$

Region 2.

$$\begin{aligned} (r, z, z') &= \sum_{j=1}^k E_{2j}^{FG}(r, z, z') \\ &= \frac{\omega}{n^2 \beta^2} \sum_{j=1}^k \left\{ -j\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)} \tan [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] \right. \\ &\quad \left. B_{2j}^{FG} \times \hat{z} - \hat{r} \times \lambda_j B_{2j}^{FG} \right\} \quad (57) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (r, z, z') &= \sum_{j=1}^k B_{2j}^{FG}(r, z, z') \\ &= -\hat{\Phi} \frac{p_2(z')\beta^2}{\omega n^2 \epsilon \sqrt{(2\pi r)}} \sum_{j=1}^k \sqrt{(\lambda_j)} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d) e^{-j\lambda_j r} \\ &\quad \frac{\cos [z'\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] \cos [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{\cos^2 [d\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \quad (58) \end{aligned}$$

Case C. Abraham dipole on the metal at  $z' = 0$ ,  $r' = 0$ .

The respective quantities are given by the following relations:

$$E^F(r, z, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{z' \rightarrow 0} E^F(r, z, z') \quad (59)$$

$$B^F(r, z, 0) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{z' \rightarrow 0} B^F(r, z, z') \quad (60)$$

with subscripts 1 or 2.

It is to be noted that the radiating or compensating terms are waves of spherical type which attenuate as  $R^{-1}$ ; the guided terms are waves of cylindrical type which attenuate as  $r^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . As  $\beta R$  or  $R$  increases, the ratio of the magnitude of the guided wave to that of the radiated wave increases.

The guided modes are elliptically polarized in region 1 with semi-major axis in the  $z$ -direction and semi-minor axis along  $r$ . The eccentricity for each mode, which is independent of position,

$$e = \beta/\lambda_j$$

The guided modes are sometimes referred to as "slow waves" because their phase velocities,  $V_j = \omega/\lambda_j$ , are less than the characteristic velocities of the region 1.

Goubau<sup>16,17</sup> and Attwood<sup>4</sup> have treated, at length, the field and flux distributions for waves of this type.

### (5) FIELD PATTERNS

The field patterns are curves of the relative magnitudes (with respect to their maxima) of the  $\theta$ -components of the  $E$ -fields in region 1, as functions of  $\theta$ , in the range of  $\theta$  between 0 and  $\pi/2$ , or  $\beta R \gg 1$ . The dielectric is assumed to be thin so that  $\theta \simeq \pi/2$  along the surface between region 1 and 2, Fig. 2. To obtain the formulae from which these curves are computed, it is necessary to convert the guided components of the fields, eqns. (51)–(60), to spherical co-ordinates and to recombine the fields at some large fixed  $\beta R$ .

It is important to notice that the field patterns defined above are those measured by a receiving antenna polarized and travelling in the  $\theta$ -direction at the chosen value of  $\beta R$ . Since the guided waves have  $R$ -components, the patterns are not the relative magnitudes of the total field along the great circle of radius  $\beta R$ . It is also important to observe the manner in which these patterns vary with  $\beta R$ . Since the radiated wave disappears at  $\theta \simeq \pi/2$ , while for most finite dielectric thicknesses,  $\beta d$ , the surface wave attenuates rapidly with decreasing  $\theta$ , the region of interference between the two is very small. For these reasons, the principal effect of varying  $\beta R$  is to vary the relative mag-

nitudes of the sections of the field patterns, at  $\theta$  near  $\pi/2$  and at  $\theta$  less than  $\pi/2$ , by a factor  $R^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

Figs. 6–14 contain field patterns for cases A, B, and C,  $n^2 = 2.54$ ,  $\beta R \simeq 239$  and various values of  $\beta d$  and  $\beta z'$ , on semi-logarithmic scales, with comparison patterns for dipoles above

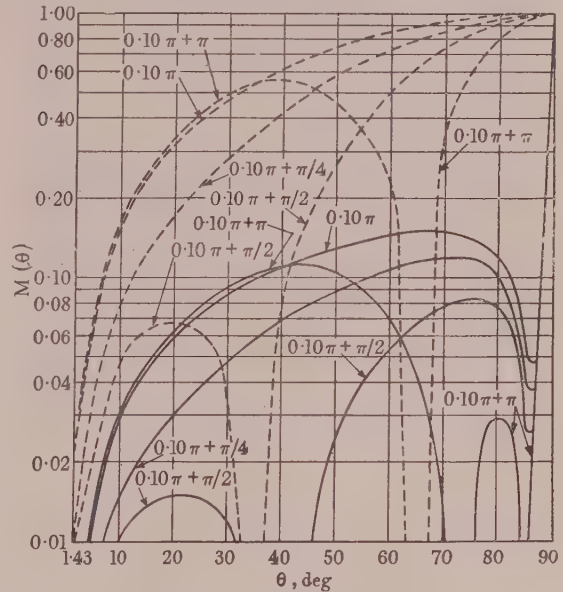


Fig. 6.—Field patterns for case A ( $\beta d = 0.10\pi$ ) and comparative with field patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \simeq 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = 0.10\pi$ ,  $\pi/4 + 0.10\pi$ ;  $\pi/2 + 0.10\pi$ ; and  $\pi + 0.10\pi$ .  
—  $\beta d = 0.10\pi$ ; — — —  $\beta d = 0$ .

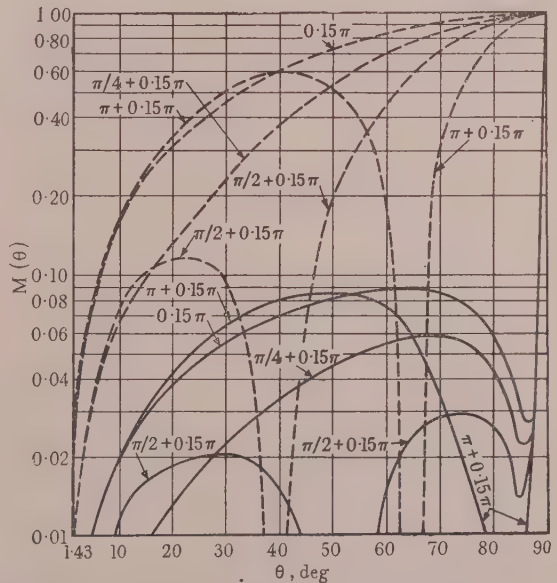


Fig. 7.—Field patterns for case A ( $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ ) and comparative with field patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \simeq 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
 $\beta z' = 0.15\pi$ ;  $\pi/4 + 0.15\pi$ ;  $\pi/2 + 0.15\pi$ ;  $\pi + 0.15\pi$ .  
—  $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ ; — — —  $\beta d = 0$ .



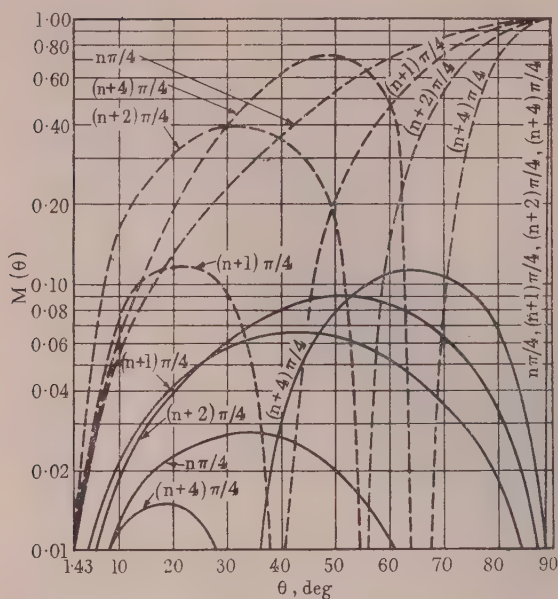


Fig. 8.—Field patterns for case A ( $\beta d = n\pi/4$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = n\pi/4$ ;  $(n+1)\pi/4$ ;  $(n+2)\pi/4$ ; and  $(n+4)\pi/4$ .  
——  $\beta d = n\pi/4$ ; ———  $\beta d = 0$ .

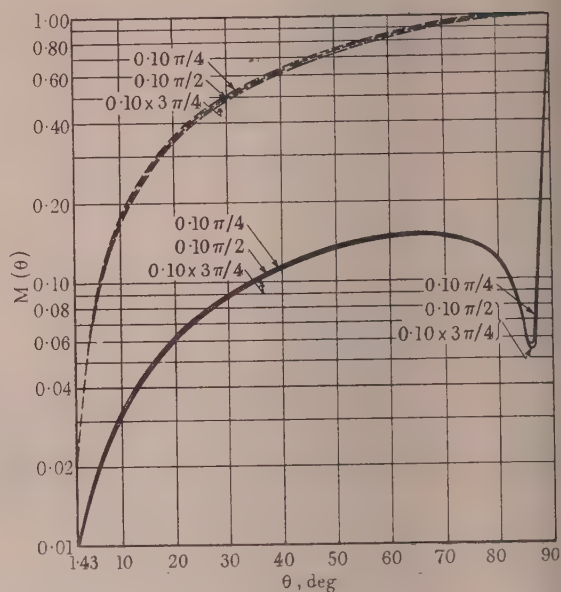


Fig. 10.—Field patterns for case B ( $\beta d = 0.10\pi$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 2.39$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = 0.10\pi/4$ ;  $0.10\pi/2$ ; and  $0.10 \times 3\pi/4$ .  
——  $\beta d = 0.10\pi$ ; ———  $\beta d = 0$ .

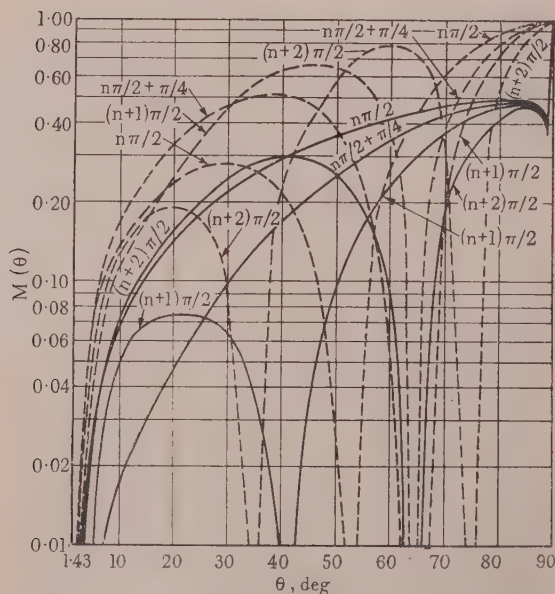


Fig. 9.—Field patterns for case A ( $\beta d = n\pi/2$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = n\pi/2$ ;  $(n\pi/2) + \pi/4$ ;  $(n+1)\pi/2$ ;  $(n+2)\pi/2$ .  
——  $\beta d = n\pi/2$ ; ———  $\beta d = 0$ .

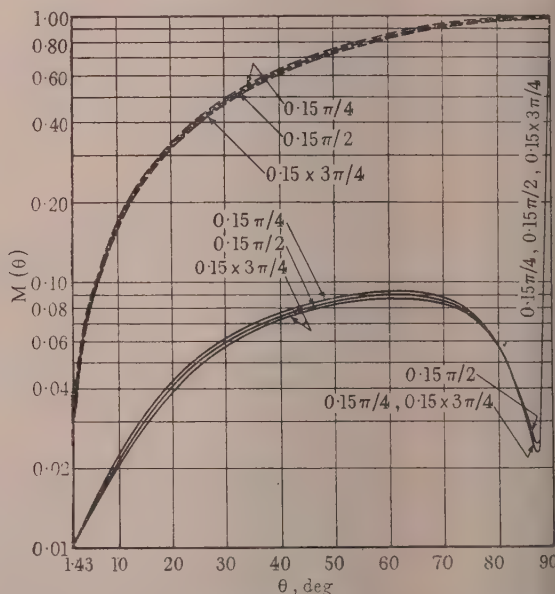


Fig. 11.—Field patterns for case B ( $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = 0.15\pi/4$ ;  $0.15\pi/2$ ; and  $0.15 \times 3\pi/4$ .  
——  $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ ; ———  $\beta d = 0$ .

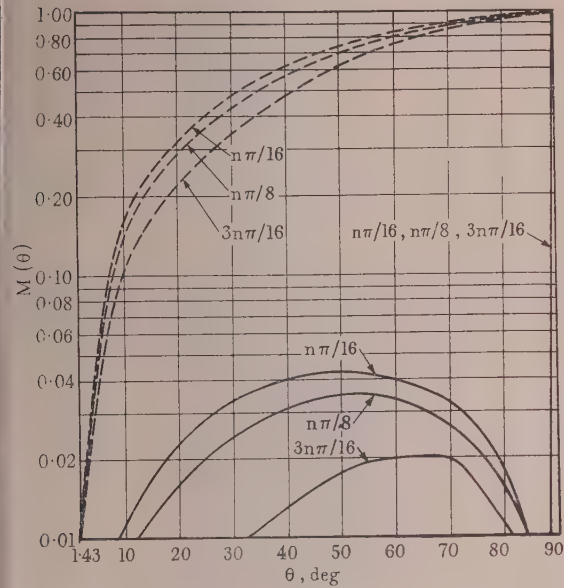


Fig. 12.—Field patterns for case B ( $\beta d = n\pi/4$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = n\pi/16$ ;  $n\pi/8$ ; and  $3n\pi/16$ .

————  $\beta d = n\pi/4$ ; ————  $\beta d = 0$ .

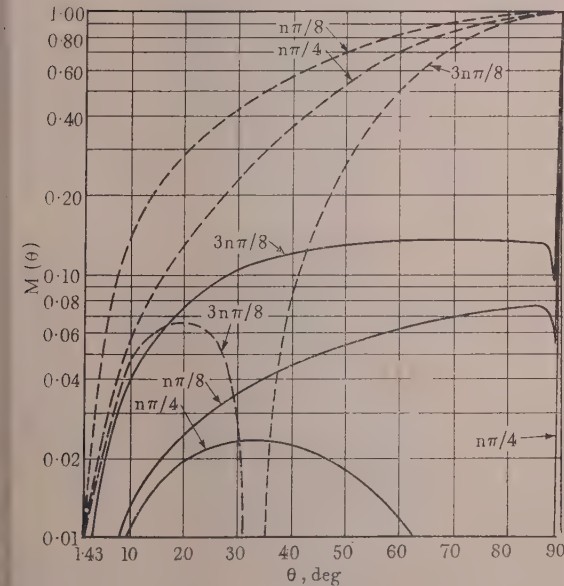


Fig. 13.—Field patterns for case B ( $\beta d = n\pi/2$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
The curves, which are marked accordingly, are plotted for  $\beta z' = n\pi/4$ ;  $n\pi/8$ ; and  $n\pi/4$ .

————  $\beta d = n\pi/2$ ; ————  $\beta d = 0$ .

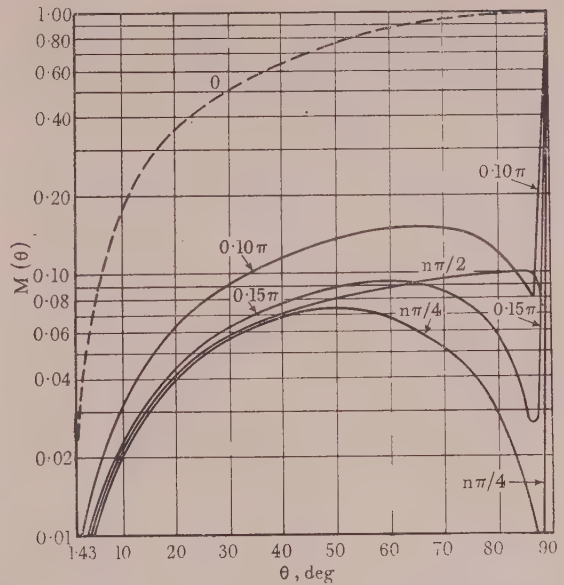


Fig. 14.—Field patterns for case C ( $\beta z' = 0$ ) and comparative patterns for  $\beta d = 0$ .

$\beta R_0 \approx 239$ ;  $n^2 = 2.54$ .

————  $\beta d = 0$ .

————  $\beta d = 0.10\pi$ ;  $0.15\pi$ ;  $n\pi/4$ ; and  $n\pi/2$ .

or on a perfect uncoated conductor for the same dipole heights  $\beta z'$  as those with the coating present.

The dielectric constant of polystyrene was chosen as being typical.  $\beta R_0 \approx 239$  was not only chosen as being typical but was chosen for proposed future experimental use. The thickness  $\beta d = n\pi/2$  may seem peculiar, but in Fig. 4 this value is seen to be smaller than, but very close to,  $\pi/\sqrt{(n^2 - 1)}$ , the value at which multi-mode propagation commences. Since the value  $\beta d = n\pi/2$  possesses this quality, besides being convenient for numerical computation, it was chosen. It is clear that the dielectric thicknesses used provide good coverage of the region of single-mode propagation.

The quantities plotted in Figs. 6-14 are

$$M(\theta) = \frac{|E_{\theta 1}^F|}{|E_{\theta 1}^F|_{\theta = \frac{\pi}{2} = \theta_{max}}}$$

For  $\beta d = 0$  and  $\beta d \neq 0$ .

## (6) CONCLUSIONS DRAWN FROM THE FIELD PATTERNS

The main points of interest in Figs. 6-14 are the large maxima or spikes at  $\theta = \pi/2$  and the compressions of the rest of the fields with the accompanying minima between these two. These curves are drawn on a logarithmic scale and must be examined closely to appreciate the actual large magnitudes of the maxima at  $\theta = \pi/2$  (the surface waves) compared to the rest of the patterns (the radiated waves). The ratios of the powers in the two components of the fields, Figs. 20 and 21, give a better conception of the large size of these maxima, especially if consideration is given to the fact that the surface wave is compressed into a small segment of space, while the radiated wave is dispersed over the complete half-space.

For case A the field patterns for  $\theta < \pi/2$  are similar to those without the dielectric coating for dipole heights equal to the



dipole heights in case *A* minus the dielectric thickness. This means that, for case *A*, the radiated waves are strongly reflected by the dielectric surface.

In cases *B* and *C* the effect of the dielectric is to compress the radiated wave into a smaller sector.

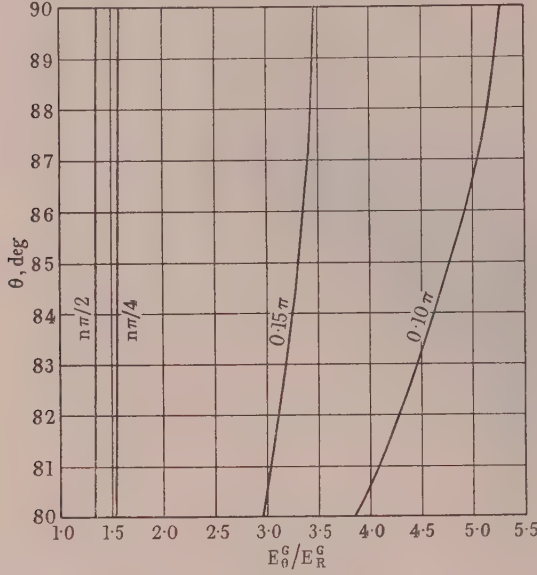


Fig. 15.—Graph of  $E_0^G/E_R^G$  versus  $\theta$  over the range of significant values of  $|E^G|$  for  $\beta d = n\pi/2, n\pi/4, 0.15\pi, 0.10\pi$  and for  $n^2 = 2.54$ .

Fig. 15 is a plot of  $|E_{\theta}^{FG}|/|E_R^{FG}|$  versus  $\theta$  for the  $\beta d$ 's of Figs. 6–14 over the range of significant magnitudes of  $E_f^G$ . For the cases considered  $J = 1$ . These yield an indication of the magnitudes of the ratios of  $\theta$ -components/ $R$ -components of the radiation patterns. For the thicker dielectrics these ratios are almost constant, indicating that, since  $|E_{zJ}^{FG}|/|E_{rJ}^{FG}|$  is constant and equal to the ratios of  $\theta$ -components/ $R$ -components of Fig. 15 at  $\theta = \pi/2$ ,  $E_{\theta}^{FG}$  and  $E_R^{FG}$  are essentially  $E_{zJ}^{FG}$  and  $E_{rJ}^{FG}$  respectively over the range of significant values of  $|E_f^G|$ .

#### (7) FORMULATION OF THE POWER EQUATION

The purpose of this Section is to formulate the equations which govern the time-average flow of power across a surface surrounding the source  $p(z')$ . Since the far-zone approximations satisfy the far-zone forms of Maxwell's equations and since the proofs that the powers in the guided- and radiated-type waves are independent require the fields to satisfy the complete forms of Maxwell's equations, it is necessary to formulate the exact near-zone fields.

Consider *E* and *B*, the exact fields existing in the configuration of Fig. 1, due to a source  $p(z')$  in any of three positions A, B, or C of Fig. 1.

For  $\beta r > 0$  the transformation of eqns. (29)–(34) to the Hankel function form, eqn. (41), is valid. The exact integrations, if they could be performed, would be taken over paths  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  of Fig. 3. These integrations yield contributions from the poles and branch cuts. The application of eqns. (8) and (9) to the results of the integrations yields the exact *E*- and *B*-fields. It is sufficient for the purposes of this Section to represent the branch-cut contributions, *E'*, *B'*, symbolically, while the contributions of the poles, *E<sup>G</sup>*, *B<sup>G</sup>*, may be explicitly evaluated.

For  $\beta r > 0$  the exact fields may be represented by

$$(a) \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}' + \mathbf{E}^G \quad (b) \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B}' + \mathbf{B}^G \quad (61)$$

$$(a) \mathbf{E}^G = \sum_{j=1}^k \mathbf{E}_j^G$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k \begin{cases} A_{1j} e^{-j\pi/2} [\hat{r} \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)} H_1^2(\lambda_j r) + \hat{\lambda}_j H_0^2(\lambda_j r)] e^{-z\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} & \text{region } r > 0 \\ A_{2j} e^{-j\pi/2} \left\{ \hat{r} \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)} \sin [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] H_1^2(\lambda_j r) + \hat{\lambda}_j \cos [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] H_0^2(\lambda_j r) \right\} & \text{region } r < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \mathbf{B}^G = \sum_{j=1}^k \mathbf{B}_j^G$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k \hat{\Phi} H_1^2(\lambda_j r) \frac{\beta^2}{\omega} \begin{cases} A_{1j} e^{-z\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} & \text{region } r > 0 \\ A_{2j} n^2 \cos [z\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] & \text{region } r < 0 \end{cases} \quad (62)$$

Where  $A_j$  is a function of  $\lambda_j$ ,  $B$ ,  $n$ ,  $d$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $z'$  and  $p(z')$ . For  $\beta r \gg 1$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (a) \quad \lim_{\beta r \gg 1} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{B} \end{Bmatrix} &\simeq \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E}^F \\ \mathbf{B}^F \end{Bmatrix} \\ (b) \quad \lim_{\beta r \gg 1} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E}' \\ \mathbf{B}' \end{Bmatrix} &\simeq \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E}^{Fr} \\ \mathbf{B}^{Fr} \end{Bmatrix} \\ (c) \quad \lim_{\beta r \gg 1} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E}_j^G \\ \mathbf{B}_j^G \end{Bmatrix} &\simeq \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{E}_j^{FG} \\ \mathbf{B}_j^{FG} \end{Bmatrix} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (63)$$

where the fields on the right-hand sides are given in Section 5.  $\mathbf{E}^F$  and  $\mathbf{B}^F$  are approximate solutions to Maxwell's equations for large  $\beta r$ , while  $\mathbf{E}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\mathbf{E}'$ ,  $\mathbf{B}'$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_j^G$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_j^G$  are exact solutions to Maxwell's equations for  $\beta r > 0$ .

For  $\beta r \gg 1$  the guided or residue waves exist uncanceled but as  $\beta r \rightarrow 0$  the functional forms of the guided waves become infinite. Since this is physically impossible except at discrete points at  $r = 0$ ,  $z = z'$ , the so-called radiating or compensating fields, due to the branch cut contributions, must cancel the singular parts of the guided waves as  $\beta r \rightarrow 0$ . An indication of the cancellation is given by the appearance of the factor  $A_j(\theta)$  in the asymptotic results. Despite this cancellation the division in eqn. (61) is valid because of the linearity of Maxwell's equations.

Since  $p(z')$  is arbitrary, let it be chosen to be a real quantity. It may be verified that, for  $p(z')$  real,  $A_{1j}$  and  $A_{2j}$  are real.

The power flowing across any surface *S* surrounding the source is given by

$$P = \Re \left\{ \frac{1}{2\mu} \left[ \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}' \times \mathbf{B}^{r*}) dS + \sum_{j=1}^k \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}' \times \mathbf{B}_j^{G*} + \mathbf{E}_j^G \times \mathbf{B}^{r*}) dS + \sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{m=1}^k \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_j^G \times \mathbf{B}_m^{G*}) dS \right] \right\} \quad (64)$$

where  $\hat{n}$  is the outward normal to the volume enclosed by *S*, and superscript \* indicates the complex conjugate.

It will be proved† that

$$\Re \left\{ \frac{1}{2\mu} \left[ \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}' \times \mathbf{B}_j^{G*} + \mathbf{E}_j^G \times \mathbf{B}^{r*}) dS \right] \right\} = 0 \quad (65)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \Re \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_j^G \times \mathbf{B}_m^{G*}) dS \right] = 0 \quad J \neq m \quad (66)$$

† The author is indebted to Dr. George Goubau for suggesting these proofs and recommending references to similar proofs.<sup>18,19</sup>

Some necessary formulae derived by well-known methods<sup>20</sup> are

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_A \times \mathbf{B}_B^* + \mathbf{E}_B \times \mathbf{B}_A^*) dS \\ &= - \oint \left[ \frac{\omega}{2} \int_V (\mathbf{P}_B^* \cdot \mathbf{E}_A + \mathbf{P}_A^* \cdot \mathbf{E}_B) dV \right] \\ &= - \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_V (\mathbf{J}_B^* \cdot \mathbf{E}_A + \mathbf{J}_A^* \cdot \mathbf{E}_B) dV \right] \quad (67) \end{aligned}$$

where  $S$  is a closed surface surrounding a volume  $V$ .

$\mathbf{E}_A$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_A$  and  $\mathbf{E}_B$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_B$  are two independent solutions to Maxwell's equation in  $V$ .

$\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{J}$  are the impressed polarization and current densities.

$\epsilon$  and  $\mu$  are assumed to be real in  $V$ .

$\hat{n}$  is the outward normal to  $V$ .

and the reciprocity condition<sup>21</sup> is

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{n} \cdot [\mathbf{E}_A \times \mathbf{B}_B - \mathbf{E}_B \times \mathbf{B}_A] dS \\ &= j\omega\mu \int_V (\mathbf{P}_A \cdot \mathbf{E}_B - \mathbf{P}_B \cdot \mathbf{E}_A) dV \\ &= - \mu \int_V (\mathbf{J}_B \cdot \mathbf{E}_A - \mathbf{J}_A \cdot \mathbf{E}_B) dV \quad (68) \end{aligned}$$

eqn. (66) will be proved first.

To this end consider the configuration of Fig. 16 agreeing with Fig. 1.

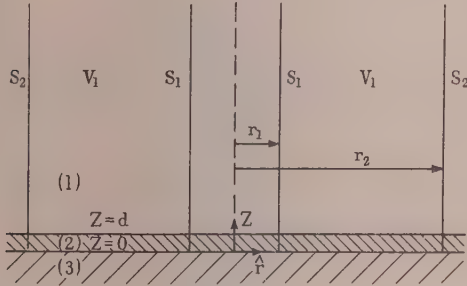


Fig. 16.—Concentric cylindrical surfaces of infinite height— $S_1$  and  $S_2$ .

Since the cylinders  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are semi-infinite and the surface  $z=0$  is a perfect conductor,  $S$  may be set equal to  $S_1$  or  $S_2$  or  $S_2$ .

If  $\mathbf{E}_A = \mathbf{E}_J^G$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_A^* = \mathbf{B}_J^{G*}$ ,  $\mathbf{E}_B = \mathbf{E}_m^G$ , and  $\mathbf{B}_B^* = \mathbf{B}_m^{G*}$  are substituted in eqn. (67) with  $V = V_1$ , Fig. 16, where  $V_1$  is sourceless, the following identity is arrived at:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{S_1} \hat{r} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_J^G \times \mathbf{B}_m^{G*} + \mathbf{E}_m^G \times \mathbf{B}_J^{G*}) dS_1 \right] \\ &= \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{S_2} \hat{r} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_J^G \times \mathbf{B}_m^{G*} + \mathbf{E}_m^G \times \mathbf{B}_J^{G*}) dS_2 \right] \\ &= \text{constant in } r = K \quad (69) \end{aligned}$$

This is a constant, since  $r_1$  or  $r_2$  may be independently varied while the other is fixed, or explicitly

$$\begin{aligned} K = - \mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{1}{\mu} (-j\pi r_{1 \text{ or } 2} D_{Jm}) \right. \\ \left. [\lambda_J H_0^2(\lambda_J r_{1 \text{ or } 2}) H_1^1(\lambda_m r_{1 \text{ or } 2}) + \lambda_m H_0^2(\lambda_m r_{1 \text{ or } 2}) H_1^1(\lambda_J r_{1 \text{ or } 2})] \right\} \quad (70) \end{aligned}$$

where the constant  $D_{Jm}$ , which is common to both integrals, is given by the following expression

$$\begin{aligned} D_{Jm} = \frac{\beta^2}{\omega} \left[ \int_d^\infty A_{1J} A_{1m} \exp \left\{ -z[\sqrt{(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)} + \sqrt{(\lambda_m^2 - \beta^2)}] \right\} dz \right. \\ \left. + \int_0^d n^2 A_{2J} A_{2m} \cos [z\sqrt{(n^2\beta^2 - \lambda_J^2)}] \cos [z\sqrt{(n^2\beta^2 - \lambda_m^2)}] dz \right] \end{aligned}$$

Specifically, this is true for large  $\beta r$  where the asymptotic forms of the Hankel functions are valid:

$$\lim_{\beta r \gg 1} K = D_{Jm} \left[ \sqrt{\left(\frac{\lambda_J}{\lambda_m}\right)} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{\lambda_m}{\lambda_J}\right)} \right] \cos [r(\lambda_J - \lambda_m)] \quad (71)$$

For  $\lambda_J \neq \lambda_m$ , this is zero for  $r = q\pi/2(\lambda_J - \lambda_m)$ ; where  $q = \text{odd integers}$ , but  $K$  is a constant, hence the constant must be zero. Therefore  $D_{Jm}$  must be zero for all  $r > 0$ . Noting that  $D_{Jm}$  is common to each term in eqn. (69), each term of eqn. (69) of the type appearing in eqn. (66) must be separately zero, and hence eqn. (66) is verified.

Eqn. (65) will now be proved.

Consider the configuration of Fig. 17. The source  $p(z')$  may

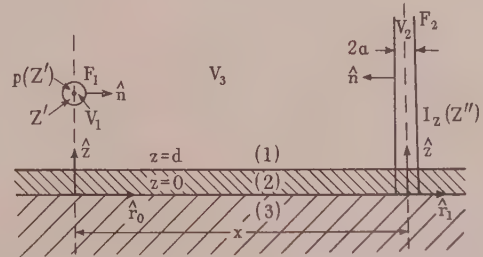


Fig. 17.—Narrow cylinder of infinite height supporting current  $I_z(z'')$ , and spherical surface surrounding  $p(z')$  separated by distance  $x$ .

be in region 1 or 2 or half-submerged in the conductor at  $z=0$ , i.e. an Abraham dipole. The current  $I_z(z'')$  on the semi-infinite cylinder  $V_2$  is such as to excite only the  $J$ th guided mode.

After utilizing the representations of the Hankel functions for small arguments, the following representation for  $I_z(z'')$  is arrived at.

$$I_z(z'') = \frac{j4\beta^2}{\omega\lambda_J\mu} \begin{cases} A_{1J} e^{-z''\sqrt{(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)}} & d \leq z'' < \infty \\ A_{2J} n^2 \cos [z''\sqrt{(n^2\beta^2 - \lambda_J^2)}] & 0 \leq z'' \leq d \end{cases} \quad (72)$$

This current excites only  $\mathbf{E}_J^G(r_1, z)$  and  $\mathbf{B}_J^G(r_1, z)$ . The dipole excites  $\mathbf{E}(r_0, z)$  and  $\mathbf{B}(r_0, z)$ .

The subscripts for cases A, B, or C agree throughout. It is assumed that  $I_z(z'')$  is the total current on  $F_2$  and  $p(z')$  is the total polarization in  $V_1$ .

The application of eqn. (8) to  $V_1$ ,  $F_1$ , noting that the polarization,  $\vec{P}$ , is a constant times a delta-function, leads to



$$\int_{F_1} \hat{n} \cdot [E \times B_f^G - E_f^G \times B] dF_1 = \omega \mu \lambda_j H_0^2(\lambda_j x)$$

$$\begin{cases} p_1(z') A_{1J} e^{-z' \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} & d \leq z' \leq \infty \\ p_2(z') A_{2J} \cos[z' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] & 0 \leq z' \leq d \\ \frac{p_2(0) A_{2J}}{2} & z' = 0 \end{cases} \quad (73)$$

The application of eqn. (68) to  $V_2$ ,  $F_2$  in the light of the orthogonality condition, eqn. (66), gives

$$\int_{F_2} \hat{n} \cdot [E \times B_f^G - E_f^G \times B] dF_2 = -\mu \int_0^\infty I(z'') E_z^G(x, z'') dz''$$

$$- \frac{2\beta^2}{\omega} H_0^2(\lambda_j x) \left\{ n^2 A_{2J}^2 d + \frac{n^2 A_{2J}^2 \sin[2d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{2\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}} \right.$$

$$\left. + \frac{A_{1J}^2 e^{-2d \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}}}{\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} \right\} \quad (74)$$

The application of eqn. (68) to the sourceless region  $V_3$ , noting that the integrations over the surfaces at infinity and at  $z = 0$  vanish, and the rearrangement of the resulting equation leads to

$$\frac{\mu \int_0^\infty I(z'') E_z^G dz''}{H_0^2(\lambda_j x)} = - \frac{2\beta^2}{\omega}$$

$$\left\{ \frac{n^2 A_{2J}^2 d + n^2 A_{2J}^2 \sin[2d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]}{2\sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}} + \frac{A_{1J}^2 e^{-2d \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}}}{\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} \right\}$$

$$+ \omega \mu \lambda_j \begin{cases} p_1(z') A_{1J} e^{-z' \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} & d \leq z' \leq \infty \\ p_2(z') A_{2J} \cos[z' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] & 0 \leq z' \leq d \\ \frac{p_2(0) A_{2J}}{2} & z' = 0 \end{cases} \quad (75)$$

The right-hand side of eqn. (75) is not a function of  $z$  or  $x$ . Hence, the equation is equal to a constant,  $G$ , in  $x$  and  $z$ .

As  $\beta x$  becomes large,  $\beta x \gg 1$ ; the quantities on the left-hand side of eqn. (75) approach zero in the following manner:

$$\lim_{\beta x \gg 1} E_z^G(x, z'') \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2 + z''^2)}}$$

$$\lim_{\beta x \gg 1} H_0^2(\lambda_j x) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\text{Hence } \lim_{\beta x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{G}{\mu} = \lim_{\beta x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\int_0^\infty I(z'') E_z^G dz''}{H_0^2(\lambda_j x)} = 0 \quad (76)$$

Since  $G$  is a constant, then  $G \equiv 0$  and both sides of eqn. (75) are identically zero.

It is enlightening to observe that the right-hand side of eqn. (75) when set equal to zero offers an alternate method of determining the  $A_j$ 's. The author has verified the fact that the  $A_j$ 's are identical when derived by both methods. This offers a check on the paths of integration chosen in Fig. 3.

Since the denominator of the right-hand side of eqn. (76) is well behaved,  $\lambda_j x > 0$ , the numerator is zero.

With the substitution of the right-hand side of eqn. (72) for  $I(z'')$  the numerator on the right-hand side of eqn. (76) becomes

$$A_{2J} n^2 \int_0^d E_z^G(x, z'') \cos[z'' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] dz''$$

$$+ A_{1J} \int_d^\infty E_z^G(x, z'') e^{-z'' \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} dz'' = 0 \quad (77)$$

The following integral is to be considered with reference to Fig. 16:

$$\mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{S_1 \text{ or } 2} \hat{n} \cdot [E^G(r, z, z') \times B_f^{G*}(r, z, z')] dS_{1 \text{ or } 2} \right\}$$

$$= -\mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{\pi}{\mu} \left[ r_{1 \text{ or } 2} \frac{\beta^2}{\omega} H_1^2(\lambda_j r_{1 \text{ or } 2}) \right] \left\{ A_{1J} \int_d^\infty \frac{E_z^G}{r} e^{-z \sqrt{(\lambda_j^2 - \beta^2)}} dz \right. \right.$$

$$\left. \left. + n^2 A_{2J} \int_0^d \frac{E_z^G}{r} \cos[z \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] dz \right\} \right\} \quad (78)$$

In the light of eqn. (77), eqn. (78) vanishes.

Consider the sourceless region  $V$  of Fig. 16 with the fields  $E$  and  $B$  existing in the region. The application of eqn. (67) to the two components  $E^G$ ,  $B^G$  of  $E$  and  $B$  with the result of eqn. (78) yields

$$\mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{S_1} \hat{r} \cdot (E_f^G \times B^*) dS_1 \right] = \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_{S_2} \hat{r} \cdot (E_f^G + B^*) dS_2 \right] \quad (79)$$

$$= \text{constant in } r$$

since  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  may be independently varied.

The substitution of the explicit expression for  $E_f^G$ , allowing  $\beta r$  to become very large and examining the result in a manner similar to that used in deducing that the constant in eqn. (79) was zero, verifies that eqn. (79) is zero for all values of  $r$ .

Combining the results of eqns. (78) and (79) verifies eqn. (65).

It should be noted that the proof used here shows that each term in eqn. (65) vanishes. Although a shorter method could have been used to show that eqn. (65) is zero, it would not have shown that each term in eqn. (65) vanishes separately or that the  $A_j$ 's can be determined independently as in eqn. (75).

It follows that eqn. (64) reduces to

$$P = \mathcal{R} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\mu} \left[ \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (E^G \times B^*) dS + \sum_{j=1}^k \int_{S_j} \hat{n} \cdot (E_f^G \times B_f^{G*}) dS \right] \right\}$$

$$= P_r + P_G \quad (80)$$

This allows the division of the power transferred across surface  $S$ , surrounding the source into two or more parts, and hence permits the power radiated and that transferred across by each guided mode to be computed separately.

## (8) THE POWER RADIATED BY THE DIPOLES

The time-average power output of the sources may be computed conveniently by one of two methods:

- The integration of the Poynting vector over a surface surrounding the source in the far zone.
- An integration at the source.

Both methods lead to the same results. Method (b) is preferred for simplicity.

Let use be made of eqn. (67)<sup>22</sup> with  $E_A = E$ ,  $B_B = B$ ,  $E_B = B_A = B$  and  $\vec{P}_A = \vec{P}_B = \vec{P}$ , noting as in (73) that the polarization

on,  $\vec{P}$ , has the form of a constant times a delta-function to obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{1}{2\mu} \int_S \hat{n} \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) dS \right] = - \mathcal{R} \left[ \frac{j\omega}{2} \int_V \vec{P}^* \cdot \mathbf{E} dV \right] \\ &= \mathcal{I} \left[ \frac{\omega}{2} \left\{ \begin{aligned} &p(z')^* \mathbf{E}_z(0, z') \quad \text{Hertzian dipole at } r' = 0, z' \neq 0 \\ &\frac{p(0)^*}{2} \mathbf{E}_z(0, 0) \quad \text{Abraham dipole } r' = 0, z' = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \right] \quad (81) \end{aligned}$$

where  $S$  is a surface surrounding the source and  $V$  is the volume enclosed by  $S$ .

If  $\mathbf{E}_z(0, z')$  is computed from eqns. (29) to (34) by the application of eqns. (8) and (9), and substituted in eqn. (1), and use is made of l'Hospital's rule for evaluating indeterminate fractions

Case B.

$$\begin{aligned} P &= \frac{|p_2(z')|^2 \omega n \beta^3}{4\pi\epsilon} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} + \frac{\sin 2n\beta z'}{8\beta^3 n^3 z'^3} - \frac{\cos 2n\beta z'}{4\beta^2 n^2 z'^2} \right. \\ (B) \quad &\left. - \mathcal{I} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{I(lm^{-1} - n^{-2}) \epsilon^{-md} \cosh^2 mz'}{n^3 \cosh md} d\lambda \right] \right\} \quad (83) \end{aligned}$$

Case C.

$$P = \frac{|p_2(0)|^2 \omega n \beta^3}{8\pi\epsilon} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} - \mathcal{I} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{I(lm^{-1} - n^{-2}) \epsilon^{-md}}{2n^3 \cosh md} d\lambda \right] \right\} \quad (84)$$

where

$$I = \frac{\lambda^3 \beta^{-3}}{1 + mn^{-2} \tanh md}$$

If the integrals are closely examined and integrated wherever possible, they are seen to result in

Case A.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[ \int_0^\infty I \epsilon^{-2l(z'-d)} d\lambda \right] \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{x^3 dx \left\{ \sqrt{(1-x^2)} \cos [2\beta(z'-d)\sqrt{(1-x^2)}] - n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)} \tan [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] \sin [2\beta(z'-d)\sqrt{(1-x^2)}] \right\}}{n^{-4}(n^2-x^2) \tan^2 [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] + 1 - x^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\pi}{\beta^3} \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\epsilon^{j\pi/4} \lambda_j^2 \epsilon^{-2(z'-d)\sqrt{(\lambda_j^2-\beta^2)}} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)}{\beta^3} \quad (85) \end{aligned}$$

Case B.

$$\begin{aligned} &- \mathcal{I} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{I(lm^{-1} - n^{-2}) \epsilon^{-md} \cosh^2 mz'}{n^3 \cosh md} d\lambda \right] = - \frac{\sqrt{(n^2-1)}}{3n} - \frac{\sin [2\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2-1)}]}{4\beta z' n^3} - \frac{\sqrt{(n^2-1)}}{6n^3} \\ &\quad + \sqrt{(n^2-1)} \frac{\cos [2\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2-1)}]}{4n^3 \beta^2 z'^2} - \frac{\sin [2\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2-1)}]}{8\beta^3 z'^3 n^3} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{n^3} \int_0^1 \frac{x^3 dx \left[ \frac{\sqrt{(1-x^2)}}{\sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}} - n^{-2} \right] \cos^2 [\beta z' \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] \left\{ n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)} \tan^2 [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] - \sqrt{(1-x^2)} \right\}}{n^{-4}(n^2-x^2) \tan^2 [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] + 1 - x^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\pi}{n^3 \beta^3} \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\lambda_j^2 \epsilon^{j\pi/4} \cos^2 [z' \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}] Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)}{\cos^2 [d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \quad (86) \end{aligned}$$

Case C.

$$\begin{aligned} &- \mathcal{I} \left[ \int_0^\infty \frac{I(lm^{-1} - n^{-2}) \epsilon^{-md} d\lambda}{2n^3 \cosh md} \right] \\ &= - \frac{(2n^2+1)}{6n^3} \sqrt{(n^2-1)} + \frac{1}{2n^3} \int_0^1 \frac{x^3 dx \left[ \frac{\sqrt{(1-x^2)}}{\sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}} - n^{-2} \right] \left\{ n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)} \tan^2 [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] - \sqrt{(1-x^2)} \right\}}{n^{-4}(n^2 \beta^2 - x^2) \tan^2 [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2-x^2)}] + 1 - x^2} \\ &\quad + \frac{\pi}{2n^3 \beta^3} \sum_{j=1}^k \frac{\lambda_j^2 \epsilon^{j\pi/4} Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)}{\cos^2 [d \sqrt{(n^2 \beta^2 - \lambda_j^2)}]} \quad (87) \end{aligned}$$

or the well-known expression for the power radiated by an isolated Hertz dipole<sup>23,24</sup> is utilized, the expressions for  $P$  result:

Case A.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{|p_1(z')|^2 \omega \beta^3}{4\pi\epsilon} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} + \frac{\cos [2\beta(z'-d)]}{4\beta^2(z'-d)^2} \right. \\ (A) \quad &\left. + \frac{\sin [2\beta(z'-d)]}{8\beta^3(z'-d)^3} + \mathcal{I} \left[ \int_0^\infty I \epsilon^{-2l(z'-d)} d\lambda \right] \right\} \quad (82) \end{aligned}$$

where  $Q(\lambda_j, \beta, n, d)$  is defined in Section 3.

If method (a), in conjunction with eqns. (80) and (51)–(60), were used to compute  $P^G$ , it would be found that this yields exactly the last term in eqns. (85)–(87). Hence the terms in the summations when substituted in eqns. (82)–(84) are the total powers transferred into the guided modes from the dipoles. It is to be noted that it is necessary to prove that the power can be subdivided as in eqn. (80) before the two divisions can be compared.

As was previously observed, the total power allotted to a guided mode [the summation terms in eqns. (85)–(87)] is not



acquired by the mode until  $\beta r$  becomes infinite. To a close approximation this is true for  $\beta r$  greater than the values of Fig. 5. To this approximation, then, eqns. (82)–(87) may be given the following interpretation according to eqn. (80);  $P$  is the total power transferred across  $S$ :

$$P^G = \sum_{j=1}^k P_j^G$$

$P^G$  is equal to the summation terms in eqns. (82)–(87) and is equal to the power transferred across  $S$  by the guided modes, where  $S$  has a minimum radius  $\beta R$  which is greater than the values of  $\beta r$  in Fig. 5.  $P^r$  is equal to the remaining terms of eqns. (82)–(87) and is equal to the power transferred across  $S$  by the compensating waves:

$$P = P^r + \sum_{j=1}^k P_j^G$$

If eqns. (82) and (83) are evaluated at  $z' = d+$  and  $z' = d-$ , respectively, it turns out that the powers are identical if  $p_2(d-) = n^2 p_1(d+)$ . This verifies the previous result.

Figs. 18(a) and 18(b) contain curves of  $4\pi\epsilon P/|p^2|\omega\beta^3$  as a function of dipole height,  $\beta z'$ , for  $n^2 = 2.54$ , for two thicknesses of

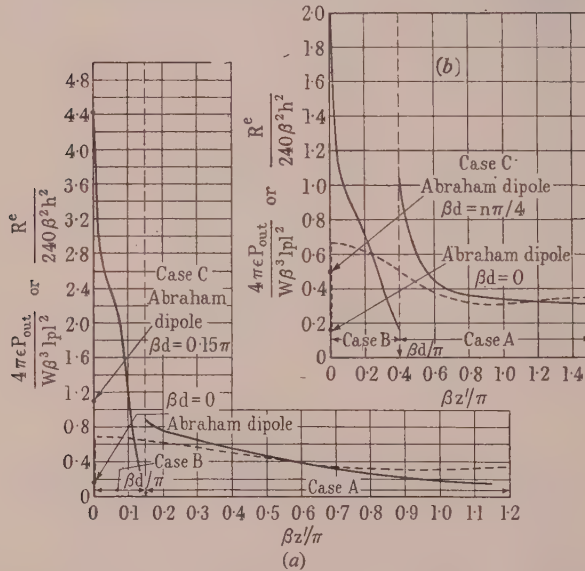


Fig. 18.—Total power radiated and radiation resistance as a function of  $\beta z'$ .

- (a)  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
 —  $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ ; - - -  $\beta d = 0$ .  
 (b)  $n^2 = 2.54$ .  
 —  $\beta d = n\pi/4$ ; - - -  $\beta d = 0$ .

dielectric,  $\beta d = 0.15\pi$  and  $n\pi/4$ . The integrals in eqns. (85)–(87) were computed by numerical integration. Comparison curves with  $\beta d = 0$  are given.

The discontinuities at  $\beta z = \beta d$  in Figs. 18(a) and 18(b) are due to the above-mentioned discontinuities of the magnitudes of the sources. The total powers are seen to decrease with  $\beta z'$  in the dielectric. The slight hump in this region in Fig. 18(b) is due in part to the maximum of  $P^G$  as seen in Fig. 20. For  $\beta z' > \beta d$  the powers fluctuate around the values for  $\beta z' = 0$ . Both converge upon  $1/3$  as  $\beta z'$  approaches large values, indicating that the coupling to the guided modes and image fields approaches zero for large  $\beta z'$ .

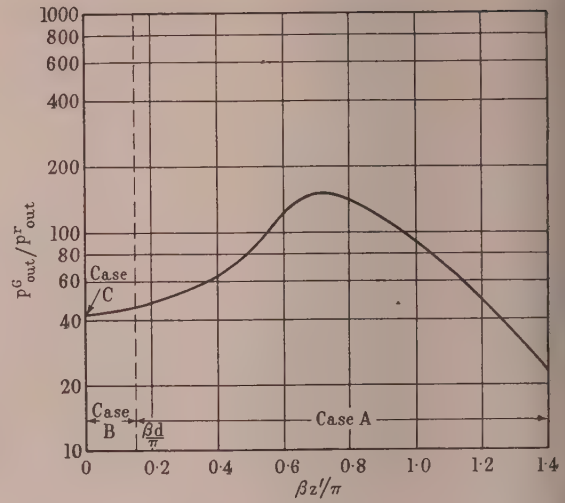


Fig. 19.— $P_{out}^G/P_{out}^r$  as a function of  $\beta z'$  for  $\beta d = 0.15\pi$ .  
 $n^2 = 2.54$ .

This includes cases A, B and C as  $\beta z'$  varies.

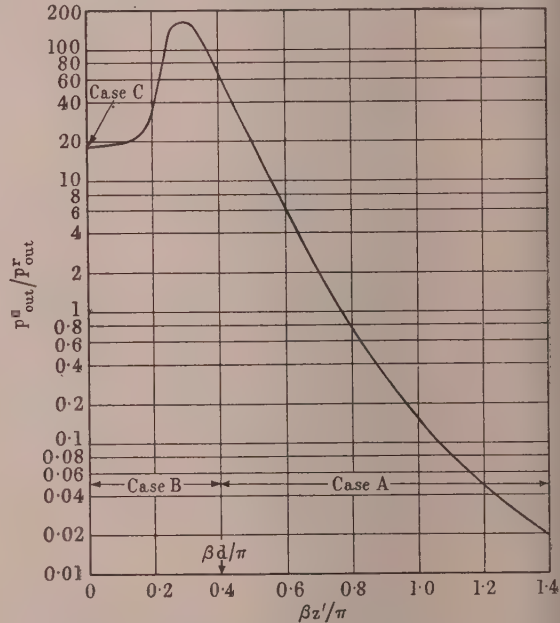


Fig. 20.— $P_{out}^G/P_{out}^r$  as a function of  $\beta z'$  for  $\beta d = n\pi/4$ .  
 $n^2 = 2.54$ .

This includes cases A, B and C as  $\beta z'$  varies.

Figs. 19 and 20 contain curves of  $P^G/P^r$  versus dipole height  $\beta z'$ , for the same  $\beta d$ 's and  $n$  as Figs. 18(a) and 18(b). Figs. 19 and 20 are seen to have maxima near the dielectric surface and to decrease uniformly with  $\beta z'$  beyond these maxima. In Fig. 20 the maximum is in the dielectric region, while as  $\beta d$  decreases moves into the region above the dielectric as in Fig. 19.

For the smaller  $\beta z'$ , the large magnitudes of the ratios in Figs. 19 and 20 indicate that an overwhelming portion of the power radiated by the dipole is transferred to the guided or surface waves. In these cases the nomenclature of "compensating wave" for the radiated component of the field is a preferable one.

### THE ATTENUATION COEFFICIENT OF A GUIDED MODE DUE TO THE FINITE CONDUCTIVITY OF THE GROUND PLANE

The attenuation coefficient,  $\alpha_J$ , for  $\beta r \gg 1$ , of the  $J$ th guided mode due to a large but finite conductivity of the ground plane may be derived by the use of the following formula:<sup>25</sup>

$$\alpha_J = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial P_J^G / \partial r}{P_J^G} \quad (88)$$

If the following procedure is followed, eqn. (89) will result in cases A, B, and C.

(a) Assume the fields are those of eqns. (51)–(60) except for small component  $Er_J^G(r, 0)$ .

(b) Assume  $P_J^G$  is that of eqns. (82)–(87).

(c) Set  $H_{\Phi J}^G(r, 0) \simeq -I_J(r, 0) \simeq -Er(r, 0)/Z_S$ , where  $I_J(r, 0)$  is a quasi-surface current.

$$Z_S = (1 + j)\sqrt{\left(\frac{\omega\mu}{2\sigma}\right)}$$

(d) Compute

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial P_J^G}{\partial r} &= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{R} \left[ \int_0^{2\pi} Z_S |I_J(r, 0)|^2 r d\Phi \right] \\ &= \frac{R_S}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} |H_{\Phi J}(r, 0)|^2 r d\Phi \end{aligned}$$

(e) Substitute  $d$  and  $b$  in eqn. (88)

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{n^2 \beta^2}{\lambda_J \sqrt{(2\omega\sigma\mu)}} \\ &\quad \frac{\sqrt{(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)[(\beta^2 - n^2 \lambda_J^2) + n^2(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)]}}{\{\beta^2(n^2 - 1) + d\sqrt{(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)[(\beta^2 - n^2 \lambda_J^2) + n^2\sqrt{(\lambda_J^2 - \beta^2)}]\}} \end{aligned} \quad (89)$$

for cases A, B, and C.

Fig. 21 contains a plot of  $\alpha_J \sqrt{(2\omega\sigma\mu)}/n^2 \beta^2$  as  $\beta d$  varies, for  $n = 2.54$ , and  $0.10\pi \leq \beta d \leq 1.6\pi$ , for the existing modes 1

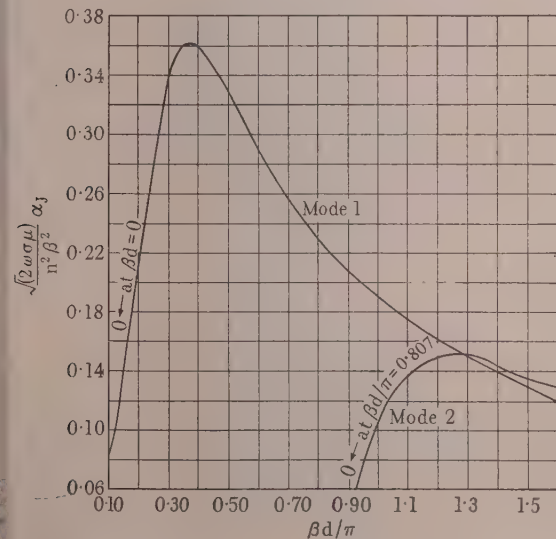


Fig. 21.—Attenuation of a surface mode due to a large but finite conductivity  $\sigma$  of the ground plane as a function of dielectric thickness  $\beta d$ .

$$n = 2.54; 0.10\pi \leq \beta d \leq 1.6\pi.$$

and 2. It is to be noted that the attenuation coefficient for each mode increases to a maximum and then decreases uniformly with increasing  $\beta d$ . These maximum values of attenuation appear approximately halfway between the cut-off thicknesses. The attenuation coefficients for the higher modes are lower than those for the lower modes since the factor  $d$  appears in the denominator of (89) and the higher modes appear with larger  $\beta d$ .

### (10) RADIATION RESISTANCE

The radiation resistance may be computed by referring it to the uniform current on the dipole,  $I(z')$ :

$$R^e = \frac{2P}{|I(z')|^2} \quad (90)$$

where  $I(z') = j\omega p(z')/2h$  for both the Abraham and Hertz dipoles and  $h$  = the half-length of the Hertz dipole = the length of the Abraham dipole. Hence

$$\frac{R^e}{240\beta^2 h^2} = \frac{4\pi\epsilon P}{\omega\beta^3 |p(z')|^2} \quad (91)$$

This is plotted with  $P$  in Figs. 18 and 19.

### (11) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to thank Prof. R. W. P. King and Dr. Tetsu Morita for their advice and encouragement. He also wishes to express his gratitude to Mrs. Mary Andrews for carrying out the extensive computations.

The work described was made possible through support extended to Cruft Laboratory, Harvard University, jointly by the Navy Department (Office of Naval Research), the Signal Corps of the U.S. Army, and the U.S. Air Force.

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## (13) APPENDICES

## (13.1) Illustration of the Type of Integration performed to yield Eqs. (45)-(47) and (49)

To illustrate the type of integration performed to yield eqns. (45)-(47) and (49), consider the integral in eqn. (29), after it has been transformed by eqn. (41), to be integrated over  $W_1$  of Fig. 3.

$$I = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-l(z+z'-2d)}}{l + mn^{-2} \tanh md} H_0^2(\lambda r) \lambda d\lambda \quad (92)$$

It is convenient to make the following substitution:

$$R'' \sin \theta_1 = z + z' - 2d; R'' \cos \theta_1 = r \quad [\text{see Fig. 2(a)}] \quad (93)$$

$$\lambda = \beta \sin \alpha; \sqrt{(\beta^2 - \lambda^2)} = \beta \cos \alpha \quad (94)$$

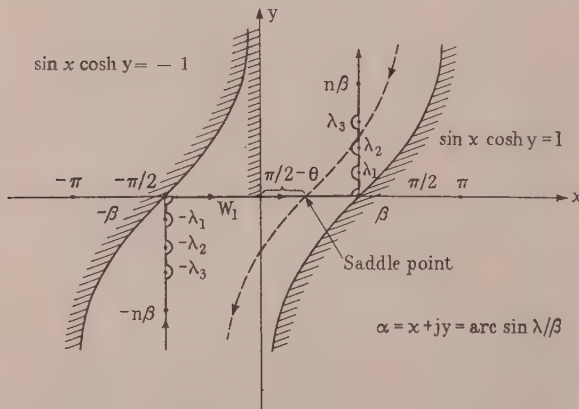


Fig. 22.—Path of integration in the  $\alpha = \text{arc sin } \lambda/\beta$ -plane.

— — — Path of asymptotic integration  $w$ , defined by  $\sin(x + \theta) \cosh y = 1$ .

The Riemann sheet of interest in the  $\lambda$ -plane of Fig. 3 transforms into the curved strip in the  $\alpha$ -plane, Fig. 22. The transformation of the branch cuts (which are not branch cuts in the  $\alpha$ -plane) are defined by  $\sin x \cosh y = \pm 1$ . Making the assumption that  $\beta R'' \cos \theta_1 \gg 1$ , so that  $H_0^2$  may be replaced by its

asymptotic form for large argument, and substituting eqns. (92) and (94) in eqn. (92), (92) becomes

$$I = -\frac{e^{j\pi/4} \beta^2}{4\pi} \int_{W_1} \sqrt{\left( \frac{2 \sin \alpha}{\pi R'' \beta \cos \theta_1} \right)} \frac{\cos \alpha e^{-j\beta R'' (\cos \alpha \sin \theta_1 + \sin \alpha \cos \theta_1)} d\alpha}{\{[-j\beta \cos \alpha + \beta n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha)} \tan [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \sin^2 \alpha)}]\}}$$

This is of the proper form for an integration by the method of steepest descents,<sup>10,12</sup> when  $R'' \gg d$ .

The saddle-point is at  $\alpha = \pi/2 - \theta$ .

The path of steepest descent,  $W$ , is defined by

$$\sin(x + \theta_1) \cosh y = 1 \quad (\text{Fig. 2})$$

If the assumption is made that the poles are not near enough to the value  $\alpha = \pi/2$  to affect the integrand before the exponential factor has attenuated it to negligible value,<sup>\*12</sup> the integration over  $W$  results in:

$$+ \frac{j\beta e^{-j\beta R''}}{2\pi R''} \frac{\sin \theta_1}{-j\beta \sin \theta_1 + \beta n^{-2} \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_1)} \tan [\beta d \sqrt{(n^2 - \cos^2 \theta_1)}]} \quad (96)$$

and it may be observed that

$$I = \int_{W_1} \dots d\alpha = - \int_W \dots d\alpha - 2\pi j \sum \text{Residues enclosed by } W \text{ and } W_1 \quad (97)$$

When  $W$  passes through a pole, one-half the residue is included<sup>10,12</sup> as a contribution to the integration. If the pole is included between  $W$  and  $W_1$ , the whole residue is contributed to eqn. (97), while if the pole is excluded by path  $W-W_1$ , there is no contribution from it.

It is relatively easy to verify that  $W$  passes through a pole when  $\theta_1 = \text{arc cos } \beta/\lambda$ , and from this relationship the coefficients  $A_r(\theta_1)$  of the residue waves arise. The residue terms are evaluated by well-known methods.

The rapid decrease of the coefficient  $A_r(\theta_1)$  at its critical value is due to the fact that for large  $\beta R$  the path passes very rapidly through the pole as  $\theta_1$  varies.

The results obtained thus far have been restricted to  $\beta R'' \cos \theta_1 \gg 1$  by virtue of the assumption that the Hankel function could be replaced by its asymptotic form. Actually the restriction is less strict for a good approximation and it may be modified to  $\beta R'' \gg 1$  and  $(\beta R'' \cos \theta_1)^2 \gg 1$ . This leaves only a small region near  $\theta_1 = \pi/2$  where the results developed are not valid. The restrictions may be further modified by the following.

Consider eqn. (29) for  $r = 0$ ,  $\theta_1 \approx \pi/2$ ,  $\beta R'' \approx \beta z \gg 1$ .

$$I \Big|_{r=0} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-l(z+z'-2d)}}{l + mn^{-2} \tanh md} \lambda d\lambda \quad (98)$$

Performing the same transformations, eqns. (93) and (94) and integrating over half the path  $W$  (the part on and above the  $x$ -axis of Fig. 22) in the  $\alpha$ -plane, the following is obtained:

$$I \Big|_{r=0} = \frac{-j}{2\pi} \frac{e^{-j(z+z'-2d)}}{(z+z'-2d)(-j + n^{-1} \tan \beta nd)} \quad (99)$$

where there are no residue terms since  $\beta z \gg 1$  and  $\theta_1 = \pi/2 > \text{arc cos } \beta/\lambda$ ,  $[A_r(\theta_1) = 0]$ .

\* See Appendix 13.2 for the exact condition.

It is seen that

$$I \Big|_{r=0} = \lim_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \pi/2} I \quad \text{eqn. (97)}$$

It is therefore a reasonable assumption that eqn. (97) is valid for all values of  $\theta_1$ ,  $0 < \theta_1 < \pi/2$ ,  $\beta R'' > 1$ .

The integrations of eqns. (30), (31), and (33) are performed in a similar manner.

### 3.2) Example of the Application of the Method of B. L. Van der Waerden to the Integration of Eqns. (32) and (34)

As an illustrative example of the application of the method of B. L. Van der Waerden<sup>13</sup> to the integration of eqns. (32) and (34), consider the following integral, obtained by applying eqn. (41) to eqn. (32).

$$-\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{W_2}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - mn^{-2}) \cosh mz' \cosh mze^{-md} \lambda H_0^2(\lambda r) d\lambda}{m(1 \cosh md + mn^{-2} \sinh md)} \quad (100)$$

Since the integrand of eqn. (100) has two extra branch cuts, (3) and (4) in Fig. 3, at  $\lambda = \pm n\beta$ , and one of these intersects the path of steepest descent for the integrand in (100) if the method of steepest descents, Appendix 13.1, is used, the integration by the method of steepest descents is complicated. The Van der Waerden method contains a systematic procedure for integrating around branch cuts.

In order to put eqn. (100) in Van der Waerden's form the following transformation is performed:

$$\lambda = -j\mu \quad (101)$$

The asymptotic representation for large  $\lambda r$  is made for  $H_0^2(\lambda r)$ . The transformed  $\mu = j\lambda$ -plane is shown in Fig. 23, where (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) are the branch cuts that appear in the  $\mu$ -plane, Fig. 3.

Then 
$$I = \int_{W_2} W e^{-r\mu} d\mu \text{ for } \beta r \gg \beta d \quad (102)$$

where  $r$  corresponds to Van der Waerden's  $\lambda$ .

In the  $\mu$ -plane the saddle-point of the  $\alpha$ -plane becomes another branch point.<sup>13</sup> In this case there is no added complication because this added branch point is coincident with the one at  $\mu = j\beta$ .

For large  $r$  and for a contour shifted far to the right in Fig. 23, the integral reduces to integrations over the branch cuts and poles. The former yield rapidly converging series for large  $\lambda r$  and for poles not too close to the branch points.

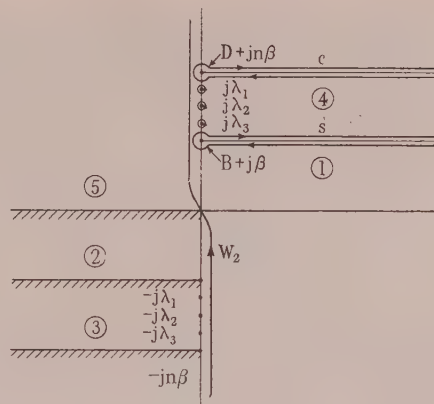


Fig. 23.—Paths of integration for cases B-2, C-2 in the  $u = j\lambda$ -plane.

Performing the integrations exactly as Van der Waerden does, the following is obtained:

$$I = -2\pi j \sum_{j=1}^k \text{Residue} - \frac{1}{2\pi r} e^{-jn\beta r} + O(r^{-2}) \quad (103)$$

where  $O(r^{-2})$  indicates a term of order  $r^{-2}$  and yields an estimate of the error.

The residues are computed in the usual way and are modified by eqn. (42) to yield the summation terms of eqn. (48).

If in eqn. (32) it is assumed that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \beta z' \\ \text{and} \\ \beta z \end{array} \right\} \ll \beta d \ll \beta r$$

then  $\beta R' \simeq \beta R'' \simeq \beta r$  and eqn. (48) is obtained.

It has been assumed that the poles are not too near to the branch points. An estimate of what is not too near is a result of the Van der Waerden method. It is

$$e^{-r|\beta - \lambda_1|} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{and} \\ e^{-r|\beta - \lambda_k|} \end{array} \right\} \ll O(r^{-2}) \ll O(r^{-1}) \quad (104a)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{and} \\ e^{-r|\beta - \lambda_k|} \end{array} \right\} \ll O(r^{-2}) \ll O(r^{-1}) \quad (104b)$$

If the integrations in Appendix 13.1 had been performed by the method in Appendix 13.2, the definition of the pole being not too near the branch point would be found to be (104a). Hence eqn. (104a) and (104b) are necessary restrictions for all the eqns. (45)–(50).



# THE IONOSPHERIC PROPAGATION OF RADIO WAVES OF FREQUENCY 16kc/s OVER SHORT DISTANCES

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## SUMMARY

The paper describes a continuation of the investigations of Best, Budden, Ratcliffe and Wilkes on the ionospheric propagation of radio waves of frequency 16kc/s emitted from the Post Office sender GBR at Rugby, and observed at Cambridge, 90km away. The present experiments over the period March, 1948, to October, 1949, have confirmed the tentative conclusions of the earlier work, and revealed some new and interesting effects.

Most of the observations were made on the abnormal component of the downcoming wave, using the method previously developed to isolate the downcoming wave and to make separate measurements on its amplitude and phase. On a few occasions simultaneous observations were made on two frequencies transmitted over comparable distances.

The observations showed that reflection took place from a height of about 72km by day and 87km at night, and that the daily cycle of phase change was related to a real change in the height of reflection. The apparent height of reflection usually varied in a regular and predictable way with the zenith angle of the sun. The total change of height in passing from midday to midnight was 16.8km in summer and 13.5km in winter. There was a marked seasonal variation of the amplitude of the downcoming wave, the variation of the day-time amplitude being different from that of the night-time amplitude. The conversion coefficient was 0.13 on a summer day and 0.26 on a winter day, whereas at night it was 0.56 in summer and 0.37 in winter. During the summer months the amplitude was closely controlled by the sun, but it was not related in any simple way to the zenith angle. The daily cycles of amplitude change and phase change appeared to take place independently. The sunrise effect on the amplitude occurred about one hour before the effect on the phase, the latter occurring about 9min after ground sunrise.

Some subsidiary variations of the phase and amplitude, which were regularly observed, were explicable on the assumption that reflection took place from two levels in the upper atmosphere. There was no clear evidence of waves reflected twice from the ionosphere.

During and after great magnetic storms the diurnal variation of the height of reflection was markedly abnormal, the abnormality lasting for as long as 10 days after the end of the magnetic disturbance. Anomalous behaviour of a less violent nature was frequently observed both by day and by night. Some of these anomalies could be directly associated with magnetic disturbances, but in general there was no simple connection between the two phenomena.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

Since 1934 part of the programme of radio research at the Cavendish Laboratory has been directed towards an understanding of the ionospheric propagation of low-frequency waves. The pre-war work, described in two papers by Best, Ratcliffe and Wilkes,<sup>1</sup> and Budden, Ratcliffe and Wilkes,<sup>2</sup> included a long series of measurements on waves of frequency 16kc/s observed at a fixed distance of 90km. After the war this work was extended to greater distances and to higher frequencies, and the results have been described in a series of companion papers.<sup>3-9</sup> As part of the post-war programme it was considered desirable

to make a longer series of detailed observations on 16kc/s at a distance of 90km, both to test the tentative conclusions of the pre-war work and for comparisons with the measurements at higher frequencies and over greater distances. The purpose of the paper is to describe these measurements on a frequency of 16kc/s and to give an account of the results obtained.

No attempt will be made here to relate the observations at those obtained on higher frequencies and over greater distances. This has been done in the companion papers and also in a summarizing paper by Bracewell, Budden, Ratcliffe, Straker and Weekes.<sup>10</sup> Where it is appropriate, however, the results will be compared with those obtained before the war for the same frequency and the same path.

In order to study the characteristic properties of the downcoming wave at short distances from the sender, Best, Ratcliffe and Wilkes<sup>1</sup> developed a simple method by which changes in the phase and amplitude could be separately measured. This method has been used in the present investigations. A brief outline of the method, together with a description of experimental arrangements using a new technique, is given in Section 2. The analysis and interpretation of the results, and a way of overcoming the difficult problem of suppressing the ground wave, are also discussed in the same Section. The results are discussed in Sections 3-7. In Section 8 an attempt is made to relate the anomalous propagation effects, sometimes observed to disturbances in the magnetic field of the earth.

In Section 3 measurements are described which lead to a determination of the apparent height of reflection by using an adaptation of the frequency-change method of Appleton and Barnett.<sup>11</sup>

## (2) THE PRESENT EXPERIMENTS

In the present experiments a long series of measurements was made on signals of frequency 16kc/s emitted by the Post Office sender, GBR, at Rugby, and received at Cambridge, 90km away, using a method previously developed<sup>1</sup> for measuring the phase and amplitude of the downcoming wave relative to the ground wave. From these measurements it was then possible to estimate the reflection coefficient of the ionosphere and changes in the apparent height of reflection of the downcoming wave.

In a second kind of experiment, simultaneous measurements of the kind described above were made over short periods on signals from GBR and signals of frequency 19.4kc/s emitted from the Post Office sender, GBZ, Criggon, at a distance of 222km from Cambridge. From these measurements it was possible to estimate the apparent height of reflection.

### (2.1) Experimental Method

The experimental method has been described elsewhere<sup>1,5</sup> in some detail and a brief outline only will be given here.

The electromagnetic field at the receiver may be regarded as being composed of a ground wave with electric and magnetic fields  $E_0$  and  $H_0$ , and a downcoming wave incident at an angle  $\theta$ . In general, the downcoming wave is elliptically polarized and

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may be resolved into two plane-polarized components, the normal component ( $E_1, H_1$ ) with its magnetic field perpendicular to the plane of propagation,\* and the abnormal component ( $E_2, H_2$ ) with its magnetic field in this plane.

The experimental method consists in isolating the abnormal component by using a loop aerial with its plane perpendicular to the plane of propagation so that it receives an e.m.f. proportional to  $2H_2 \cos i$ , and measuring its amplitude and phase relative to the ground wave. In the present experiments the e.m.f. induced in a vertical aerial was used as the phase reference. This e.m.f. is proportional to  $H_0 + 2H_1 \sin i$ , and it was verified that its phase did not differ from that of the ground wave by more than  $7^\circ$ .

## (2.2) Experimental Arrangements

The experimental arrangements may be understood by reference to Fig. 1. The e.m.f. induced in a small loop aerial,

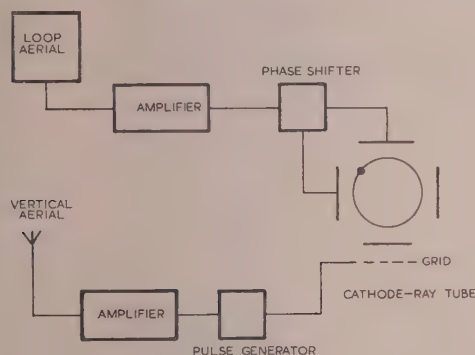


Fig. 1.—The experimental arrangements for visual observations.

designed to receive the abnormal component alone, was amplified and suitably divided and phased to produce a circular time-base on a cathode-ray oscillograph. The reference e.m.f. induced in a short vertical aerial was amplified and used to generate pulses of length  $\frac{1}{2}$  microsec, one each radio-frequency cycle. These pulses were applied to the grid of the cathode-ray tube to modulate the intensity of the circular time-base. The polar co-ordinates of the well-defined bright spot obtained in this way completely represented the amplitude of the abnormal component and its phase relative to the reference e.m.f. For visual observation, the intensity of the illumination on the cathode-ray tube was adjusted so that only the bright spot was visible; its position was then read on a transparent polar scale fixed to the face of the tube.

In the method used for automatic observations the Cartesian co-ordinates of the position of the bright spot were recorded as a function of time on moving photographic paper. This was achieved by removing the  $y$ -deflecting voltage from the cathode-ray tube and shifting the phase of the reference e.m.f. by  $90^\circ$  during alternate half-minutes. A brightening voltage was applied to the grid of the tube at intervals of 6 min to provide additional timing marks. Typical examples of the photographic records obtained in this way are shown in Fig. 2. Examples (a) and (c) are typical of the records obtained by day and by night, while sample (b) shows the effects of sudden anomalies of the type associated with solar flares, at 1439 h, and 1532 h, G.M.T. It is interesting to note that an accurate timing reference was supplied by the nature of the time signals from GBR at 1000 and 1800 h, G.M.T. From the photographic records it was

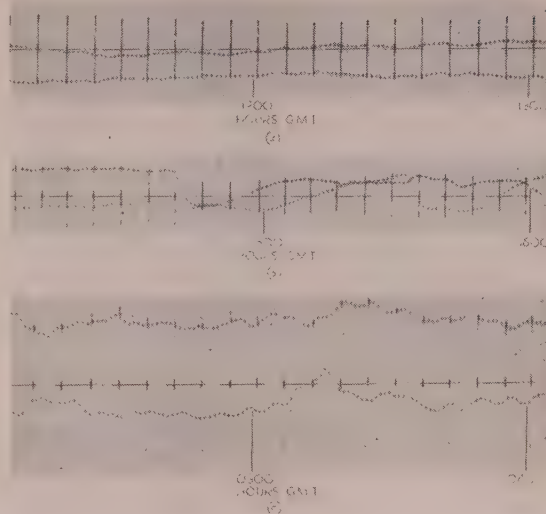


Fig. 2.—Typical examples of the records obtained with the automatic equipment.

- (a) 14th October, 1948.
- (b) 6th October, 1948.
- (c) 11th October, 1948.

possible to estimate the time to an accuracy of 1 min, the phase to  $3^\circ$ , and the amplitude to 5%.

## (2.3) Suppression of the Ground Wave

The characteristics of the downcoming wave are deduced in later Sections on the assumption that the loop aerial has been accurately set to receive the abnormal component and suppress the much stronger ground wave. If there were no downcoming wave at any time during the day, no uncertainty would arise in setting a loop to suppress the ground wave. However, a strong downcoming wave is always observed at very low frequencies, and it is difficult to know when the ground wave has been completely suppressed. A method for doing this by trial and error has been proposed by Best, Ratcliffe and Wilkes.<sup>1</sup> As this method is based on an important assumption regarding the behaviour of the downcoming wave, it is proposed to examine it in the light of the present experiments.

In the first instance the loop was set as nearly as possible with its plane perpendicular to the plane of propagation, and observations of the phase and amplitude of the received e.m.f. were made throughout the day and a polar curve of the type shown in Fig. 3 was plotted. Almost invariably, it was found that the polar curve was circular in the period from sunrise to sunset and that the origin was within the circle but not at its centre. It was assumed that some e.m.f. induced by the ground wave caused the centre to be displaced from the origin, and on subsequent days the loop setting was adjusted until the centre of the polar curve lay as near as possible at the origin. This procedure involves the important assumption that during the daylight hours the abnormal component changes in phase while its amplitude remains substantially constant. Evidence which strongly supports this assumption is given in the next paragraph.

For the long series of observations on signals from GBR the loop setting was initially adjusted in the manner described above, and afterwards it was left unchanged during systematic observations over a period of 18 months. The curves of Fig. 3 are typical of the polar curves obtained at fortnightly intervals by plotting the phase and amplitude averaged over 14 days.\* In

\* The plane of propagation is defined as the vertical plane containing the sender and the receiver.

\* The method of averaging is explained in Section 2.4.



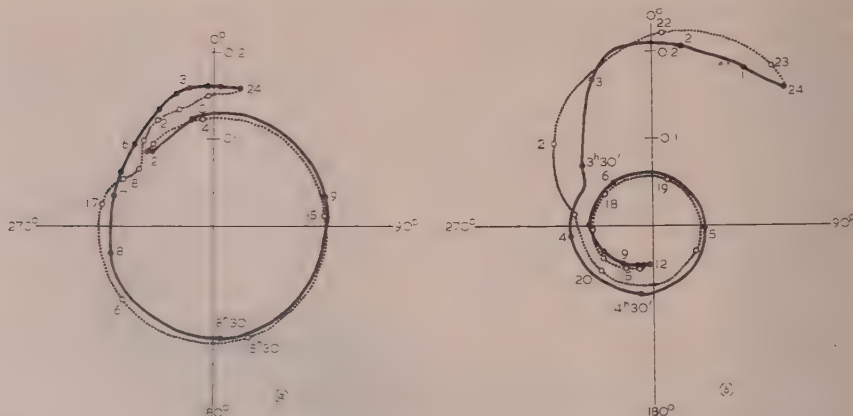


Fig. 3.—Polar curves obtained by plotting the phase and amplitude of the abnormal component.

- (a) Results averaged over the period 1st to 15th December, 1948.  
(b) Results averaged over the period 15th to 30th June, 1949.

all cases the polar curves during the daylight hours were approximately circles with their centres very nearly at the origin. The simplest explanation of these results is that the amplitude of the abnormal component remains substantially constant while its phase changes.

#### (2.4) Analysis and Interpretation of the Results

Observations on signals from GBR were made at Cambridge on 362 days\* between 11th March, 1948, and 30th September, 1949. On 266 days the observations extended over the periods from sunrise to midday or from midday to sunset, and sometimes over both periods, while on 109 occasions the observations extended throughout the night. Measurements of the phase and amplitude of the abnormal component were obtained from the automatic records at intervals of 6 min, and the measurements were plotted against the time of day in the way shown in Fig. 4.

In order to determine the regular behaviour of the downcoming wave, it was necessary to eliminate the effects of disturbed periods, and also to use some process of averaging to eliminate the small variations from day to day. The daily plots such as those in Fig. 4 showed that on most days the phase and amplitude changed smoothly and regularly, whereas on some days they were more or less violently disturbed. These disturbed periods† were usually characterized by large changes of phase which were obvious from an inspection of the plots, and the measurements were excluded from the analysis of the regular behaviour. If the curves for each morning (or afternoon) in any 14-day period were superimposed so that the changing times of sunrise (or sunset) coincided, they were found to be closely similar. The curves were therefore grouped in sets corresponding to 14 days, and mean curves were drawn through them. These mean results were used to investigate the regular behaviour of the downcoming wave.

The results will be described in terms of a model in which the ionospheric wave is reflected, possibly with a change of phase, from a sharply-defined reflecting surface with a change of amplitude measured by a reflection coefficient. It is not intended to imply that the ionospheric wave is, in fact, returned to earth in this way. The height of this fictitious reflector above the surface of the earth will be referred to as the "apparent height

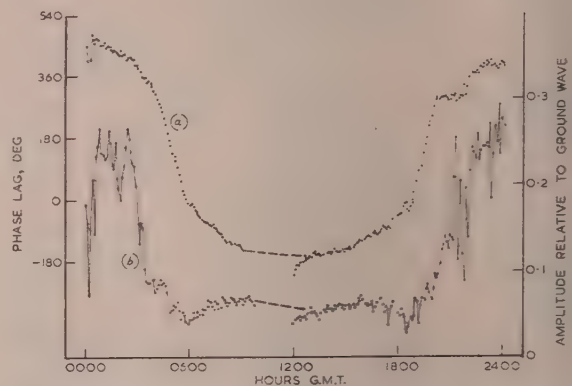


Fig. 4.—Phase and amplitude of the abnormal component deduced from the automatic records, 3rd July, 1948.

- (a) Phase curve.  
(b) Amplitude curve.

of reflection," and in the model, changes in the phase of the downcoming wave will be described as if they were due entirely to changes in the apparent height of reflection.

As the wave incident on the ionosphere ( $E^i, H^i$ ) is linearly polarized with its electric vector in the plane of propagation whereas the reflected wave is, in general, elliptically polarized, it is convenient to distinguish between the reflection coefficients for the normal component ( $E_r^i, H_r^i$ )\* and the abnormal component ( $E_r^a, H_r^a$ ).† The ratio  $H_r^i/H^i$  will be referred to as the reflection coefficient  $||R_{||}$ , and the ratio  $H_r^a/H^i$  as the conversion coefficient  $||R_{\perp}$ . The way in which these coefficients are calculated from the amplitudes of the e.m.f.'s received in the aerials has been explained in detail elsewhere<sup>5,8</sup> and will not be repeated here.

In most of the experiments described in the paper observations were made on the abnormal component alone, and it was assumed that its behaviour represented that of the downcoming wave as a whole. This assumption is supported by extensive measurements on very-low-frequency waves observed over short distances,<sup>1</sup> which showed that the state of polarization of the downcoming

\* After the end of 1948, transmissions from GBR were somewhat irregular, and it became necessary to ask for special transmissions, both to ensure the continuity of the measurements and for comparison with other observations.

† These disturbances are discussed in some detail in a later Section.

\* A symbol with a superscript  $r$  represents the magnitude of the component immediately after reflection from the fictitious reflector.

† The abnormal component is polarized with its electric vector perpendicular to the plane of propagation, the normal component with its electric vector in this plane.

ve was always approximately constant. In addition, as the  $H_1/H_2$  was always near to unity, it seems reasonable to assume that the reflection coefficient  $||R||$  is roughly equal to conversion coefficient  $||R_{\perp}||$ .

### (3) THE APPARENT HEIGHT OF REFLECTION

Although there is a fairly detailed knowledge of diurnal and seasonal variations of the phase and amplitude of very-low-frequency waves reflected at nearly vertical incidence from the ionosphere, precise information regarding the levels in the upper atmosphere to which this knowledge applies is much less complete. At the low frequencies concerned it is not possible to use the pulse technique of Breit and Tuve<sup>12</sup> to determine the height of reflection, and indirect methods must be used. In this Section

where  $h$  = Apparent height of reflection.

$R$  = Radius of the earth (taken as 6 368 km).

In the experiments described below the value of the integer  $(a_1 - a_2)$  is taken as unity, no other value giving a reasonable solution for the height of reflection. A measurement of  $(\phi_1 - \phi_2)$  then enables the apparent height to be determined.

On 4th and 5th October, 1949, simultaneous observations were made at Cambridge on signals from the senders GBR (16 kc/s, 90 km) and GBZ (19.4 kc/s, 222 km). The phases and amplitudes of the abnormal components of the two signals were recorded automatically in the way described in Section 2.2, using two separate equipments with a common timing unit. The phase results for 5th October are shown in Fig. 5(a); similar curves were obtained on 4th October. It will be noticed that

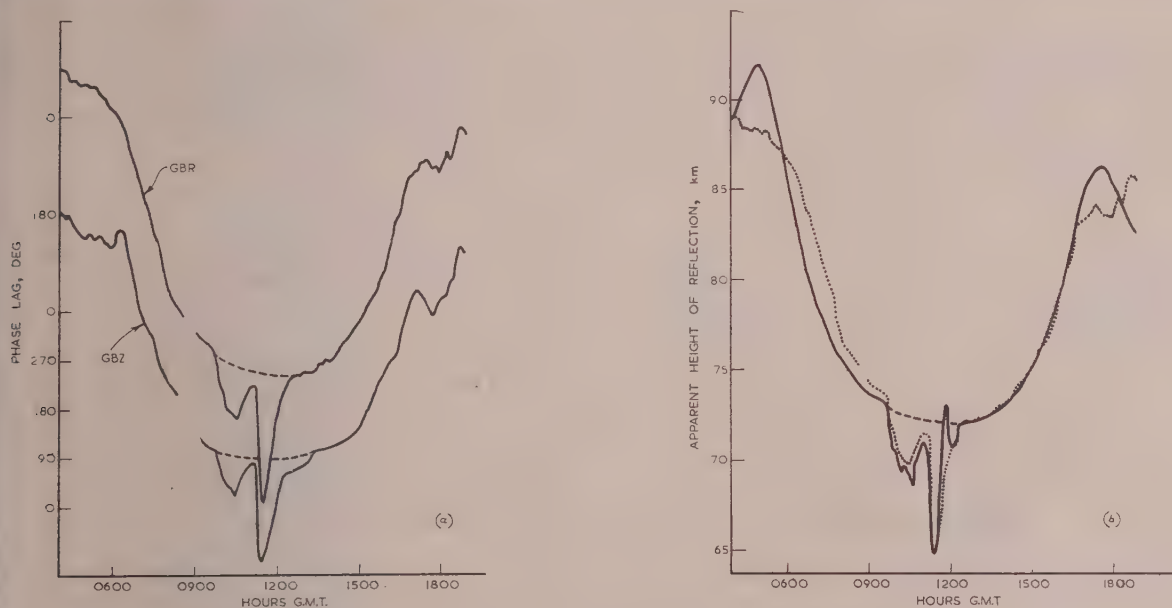


Fig. 5.—Determination of the height of reflection by the frequency-change method, 5th October, 1949.

(a) Observed phase of the abnormal component of the downcoming wave from GBR (16 kc/s, 90 km) and GBZ (19.4 kc/s, 222 km).

(b) Apparent height of reflection deduced from the phase curves (a). The dotted curve shows, for comparison, the variation of reflection height deduced from the phase curve for GBR, on the assumption that changes of phase are entirely due to changes in reflection height.

periments will be described which led to a determination of the apparent height of reflection from measurements of phase.

The method has been described elsewhere<sup>6</sup> in some detail and only a brief outline will be given here. It consists in measuring the phase difference  $\phi$  between the downcoming wave and the ground wave. If it is assumed that waves of nearly equal frequencies,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , propagated over comparable distances,  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , are reflected from the same apparent height with the same change of phase at reflection, then

$$a_1 - a_2 + \phi_1 - \phi_2 = \frac{(s_1 - d_1)}{c} f_1 - \frac{(s_2 - d_2)}{c} f_2 \quad (1)$$

where  $a$  = Integral number of free-space wavelengths.

$c$  = Velocity of the wave in free space.

$s$  = Equivalent path of the ionospheric wave.

$d$  is given with sufficient accuracy by the equation

$$s^2 = 4h^2 + d^2 \left( 1 + \frac{h}{R} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{1}{48} \frac{d^2}{R^2} \right)$$

on 5th October there were two phase anomalies of the type associated with solar flares, one lasting from 0942h until 1113h, and the other from 1113h to 1230h.

The phase difference between the curves of Fig. 5(a) plotted against the time of day shows a mean daily trend together with small periodic oscillations. These oscillations correspond to oscillations in the phase curve for GBZ and are caused by the presence of a wave component which has been reflected twice from the ionosphere. The phase difference  $(\phi_1 - \phi_2)$  given by the mean curve was used in conjunction with eqn. (1) to calculate the apparent height of reflection. The results are shown by the full curve in Fig. 5(b). It will be noticed that the apparent height varies throughout the day in a similar manner to the phase shown in Fig. 5(a). This point is illustrated in Fig. 5(b), where the dotted curve which shows the variation of reflection height deduced from the phase curve for GBR, on the assumption that changes of phase are entirely due to changes in reflection height, has been superimposed on the full curve. The same general agreement throughout the daylight hours was found



for the corresponding curves for 4th October. It will also be noticed that there appears to be a definite lowering of the apparent height at the times of the phase anomalies. This conclusion was also confirmed by the results obtained on 4th October.

In Section 4 it is shown that the apparent height of reflection varies with the zenith distance  $\chi$  of the sun in the simple manner given by eqn. (4). All the observations of apparent height on 4th and 5th October have been summarized in an equation of this form, and lead to the conclusion that  $h_{\chi=0} = 69.0 \pm 0.25$  km, where  $h_{\chi=0}$  is the apparent height which would be measured if the sun were vertically overhead ( $\chi = 0$ ).

The above results are in close agreement with those obtained by Budden, Ratcliffe and Wilkes,<sup>2</sup> and Weekes,<sup>3</sup> from measurement on the interference pattern produced on the ground by the sender GBR. Their results have been summarized in Reference 10.

#### (4) CHANGES OF APPARENT HEIGHT OF REFLECTION

On most days the phase of the abnormal component underwent smooth and regular variations which were repeated from day to day. This point is illustrated in a striking way in Fig. 6, which shows the observations plotted at intervals of 12 min over a period of 38 days.

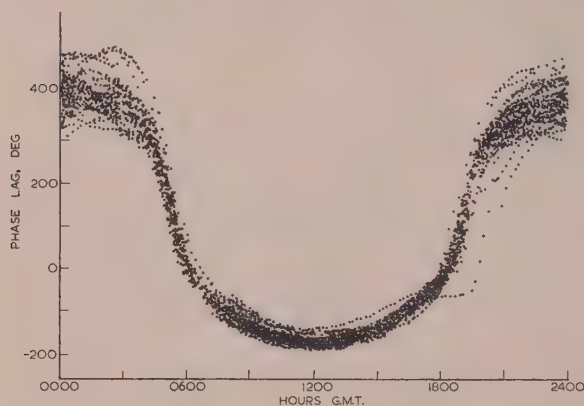


Fig. 6.—Phase of the abnormal component observed on 38 days between 28th June and 7th August, 1948.

The time scale applies to a day near the middle of the period, and the times for the other days were adjusted so that sunrise and sunset always fell at the same place on the curve.

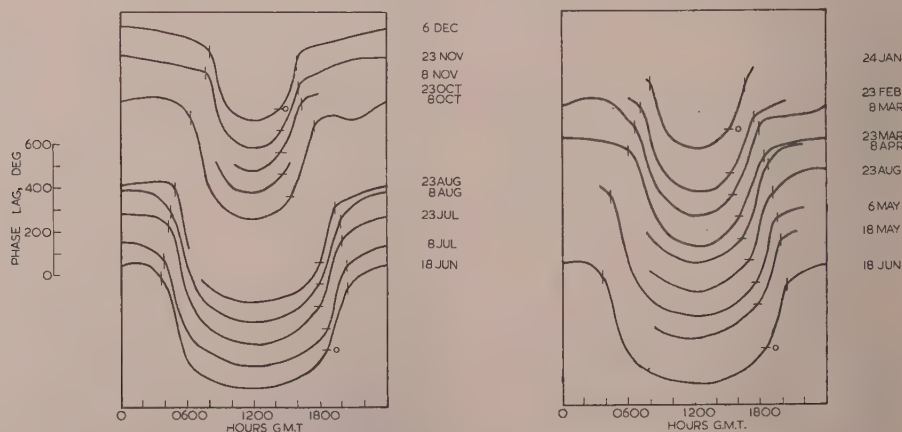


Fig. 7.—Diurnal variation of the phase of the abnormal component in 1948 and 1949.

— Time of sunrise and sunset.  
— Zero phase relative to ground wave.

Fig. 7 shows the phase curves, averaged in the way described in Section 2.4, for the period 3rd April, 1948, to 30th September 1949. These curves summarize the regular behaviour of phase of the abnormal component. The times of ground sunrise and sunset at the mid-point between Cambridge and Rugby are shown by the fine vertical lines, and the zero of phase for each curve is marked on it by a short horizontal line.

As explained in Section 2.4, it is convenient to describe changes of phase on the supposition that they result from changes of height of a fictitious reflecting surface, so the curves of Fig. 7 may be regarded as showing the way in which the height of reflection varies throughout the day. Under the conditions of the present experiment a change of phase of  $100^\circ$  corresponds to a change of height of 3.0 km.

It will be seen from the curves of Fig. 7 that the daily variation of apparent height is closely controlled by the sun. In theoretical considerations, Budden, Ratcliffe and Wilkes<sup>2</sup> deduced the following simple expression relating the height of reflection and the zenith distance of the sun, on the assumption that reflection took place from a level of constant ionization density in the lower parts of an ionized region of the type discussed by Chapman:<sup>13</sup>

$$h_{\chi} = h_{\chi=0} + h_s \log \sec \chi \quad \dots \dots$$

where  $\chi$  = Zenith distance of the sun.

$h_{\chi}$  = Apparent height when the sun's zenith angle is  $\chi$ .

$h_{\chi=0}$  = Apparent height when the sun is vertically overhead ( $\chi = 0$ ).

$h_s$  = Scale height of the atmosphere.

This equation is valid for  $\chi < 85^\circ$ . If the scale height  $h_s$  remains constant,  $h_{\chi=0}$  is a constant. If the equation applies to observations, a plot of  $h_{\chi}$  against  $\log \sec \chi$  should give a straight line whose slope gives the magnitude of  $h_s$  and whose intercept on the line  $\log \sec \chi = 0$  gives the magnitude of  $h_{\chi=0}$ .

The accuracy with which the results fit eqn. (2) has been tested by plotting  $h_{\chi}$  against  $\log \sec \chi$ . The results for the morning of 3rd July, 1948, are shown in Fig. 8. On most days the results could be represented by a straight line as close as in Fig. 8, while during winter days the fit was much closer.

It will be noticed in Fig. 8 that the plotted points depart from the straight line in a regular manner; a similar behaviour was noticed in all the plots from late February to early October but it was not observed during the other (winter) months.

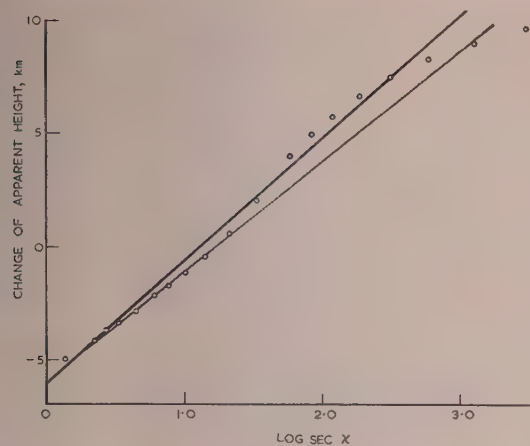


Fig. 8.—Variation of apparent height of reflection with  $\log \sec \chi$  from sunrise to midday, 3rd July, 1948.

--- Results obtained from midday to sunset on the same day.

Section 7 reasons are given for supposing that these small variations are produced by a subsidiary wave component reflected from a lower level in the ionosphere so as to interfere with the main component. In the light of this supposition, it is considered that the curves relating the height of reflection of the main abnormal component to  $\log \sec \chi$  do not depart from straight lines by more than  $\pm 0.3$  km ( $10^\circ$  in phase).

The dotted line in Fig. 8 refers to the results obtained in the afternoon of 3rd July, 1948, and it will be seen that the slope of the line for the morning is markedly greater than that for the afternoon. This type of asymmetry was always present, and its magnitude was independent of the time of year. The mean difference between the slopes for the mornings and the afternoons over the whole period of the observations was  $28^\circ$  ( $0.84$  km). This asymmetry could be produced if the rate of disappearance of electrons was small enough.

From the average curves of the type shown in Fig. 7, straight lines of the type shown in Fig. 8 have been plotted and their slopes and intercepts determined for different times of the year. The results are shown in Fig. 9. The values obtained by averaging the slopes and intercepts for the morning and the afternoon are plotted against the time of year in Fig. 9(b). There appears to be a small seasonal variation of  $\pm 0.5$  km, with a maximum in the summer and a minimum in the winter. To a first approximation, however, the intercept is constant, implying that  $h_{\chi=0}$  in eqn. (2) is constant.

The values obtained by averaging the morning and afternoon slopes are plotted against the time of year in Fig. 9(a). It will be noticed that there is a marked semi-annual variation. A further analysis of the data showed that the slope ( $S$ ) could be expressed in the form

$$S = 5.52 + 0.43 \sin(n - 78^\circ) + 1.02 \sin(2n - 88^\circ) \quad (3)$$

where  $S$  is in kilometres and  $n$  is the number of days from 1st January expressed in degrees. This equation has been used to calculate the full curve in Fig. 9(a). The maxima in the semi-annual term occur on 29th March and 29th September, very nearly at the equinoxes; the maximum and minimum in the annual term occur on 18th June and 19th December, very nearly at the summer and winter solstices.

The fact that the results agree roughly with eqn. (2) cannot immediately be taken to imply that the apparent height corresponds to a height of constant electron density. Only a full-

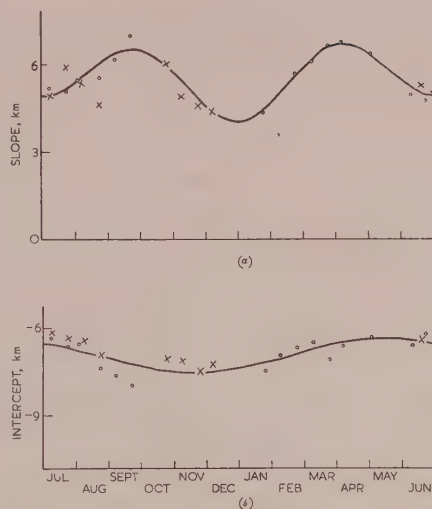


Fig. 9.—Seasonal variation of (a) the slopes and (b) the intercepts of the straight lines, such as those shown in Fig. 8.

× Observations made in 1948.  
○ Observations made in 1949.

wave theory of the reflection of very long waves can settle the point, and such a theory does not seem to be available at present. It is, however, interesting to consider what deductions could be made if the apparent height of the fictitious reflector were coincident with a level of constant electron density in the tail of a Chapman layer. Eqn. (2) then shows that the slope of the straight line obtained when  $\log \sec \chi$  is plotted against  $h_\chi$  would give the magnitude of the scale height  $h_s$ . On this supposition the scale height is found to be  $5.5$  km on the average. This is near the value of  $6$  km found by Budden, Ratcliffe and Wilkes,<sup>2</sup> and, as they pointed out, corresponds to a temperature of  $180^\circ$  K on the supposition that the air has the same composition as at the ground. Recent experiments with rockets by Havens, Koll and LaGow<sup>14</sup> have confirmed that the temperature is of this order at these heights. There does not seem to be any independent evidence that the temperature or composition of the atmosphere at these heights changes in any way which would account for the seasonal change of the slopes of the lines discussed in this Section.

Summarizing, it may be said that the apparent height of reflection may be represented by an equation of the form

$$h_\chi = h_{\chi=0} + A(t) \log \sec \chi \quad (4)$$

where the symbols have the same meaning as in eqn. (2), and  $A(t)$  is a function given by eqn. (3), or by the curve of Fig. 9(a). The results indicate that  $h_{\chi=0}$  is approximately constant with a value as suggested in Section 3 of  $69$  km. It should be emphasized that the above expression does not apply to higher frequencies<sup>8</sup> and greater distances.<sup>6</sup>

The phase of the abnormal component at local noon and at night (averaged over the period from 2100 to 0300h, G.M.T.) is plotted against the time of year in Fig. 10. The scale for the apparent height has been fitted to the results on the assumption that  $h_{\chi=0} = 69$  km as suggested in Section 3. The seasonal variation of the height at local noon arises from the variation of the factor  $A(t) \log \sec \chi$  in eqn. (4), and the full curve shown in Fig. 10 has been calculated from this expression. The results for the height at night are of particular importance as they apply to conditions when the influence of solar radiation is absent. Although the results are not as numerous as those



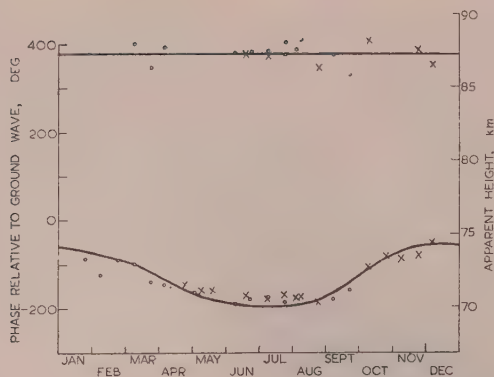


Fig. 10.—Seasonal variation of the apparent height of reflection at night (upper curve) and at local noon (lower curve).

× Observations made in 1948.  
○ Observations made in 1949.

obtained by day, it seems possible to say that any seasonal variation, if present, is not of large magnitude. In particular, there is no large semi-annual variation of the type found in the daytime. The results of observations at night are explicable on the assumption that reflection takes place from a height of about 87 km at all times of the year.

The results described in this Section are consistent with those obtained with the same sender and over the same path in 1938 and 1939.<sup>2</sup> The asymmetrical diurnal variation of the height was not noticed by the pre-war workers, since most of their observations were restricted to the afternoons. The semi-annual variation of the height  $h_x$  was obscured in their results by phenomena associated with great magnetic storms.

#### (5) THE AMPLITUDE OF THE DOWNCOMING WAVE

On most days the amplitude of the abnormal component underwent smooth and regular variations. These were closely repeated from day to day, but the agreement was not as close as with the measurements of phase. This point is illustrated in Fig. 11, which shows the observations plotted at intervals of

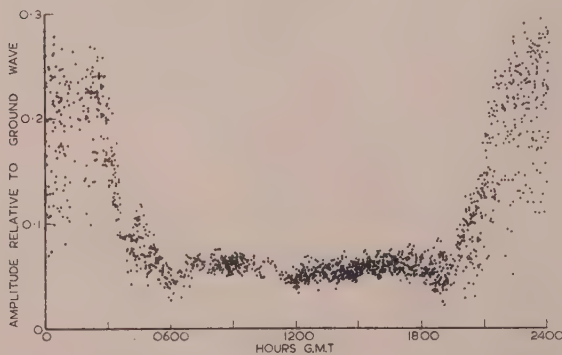


Fig. 11.—Amplitude of the abnormal component observed on 14 days between 2nd and 15th July, 1948.

12 min over a period of 14 days. It will be seen that the variability by day is much less than by night. On a winter day the variability is about 3.5 times as great, and the mean amplitude about twice as great, as on a summer day.

Fig. 12 shows the amplitude curves, averaged in the way described in Section 2.4, for the period 8th April, 1948, to 30th

September, 1949. The most striking feature of these curves is that the amplitude of the downcoming wave is at all times fairly high. In winter the amplitude is substantially constant throughout the day and night. From March until October the behaviour is markedly different. About one hour before sunrise at ground the amplitude decreases quite rapidly, remains very nearly constant throughout the daylight hours and, after ground sunset, increases rapidly to the night time value. Although in summer the amplitude is closely controlled by the sun, it is not related in any simple way to the zenith distance of the sun or to the phase of the downcoming wave. It appears that the region of ionization responsible for the absorption of the ionospheric wave varies differently from that which causes reflection.

From an inspection of all the records it was clear that there was no appreciable asymmetry in the daily variation of the amplitude, of the type found for the phase variations. Here again it appears that the reflecting and absorbing regions vary differently.

Fig. 13 shows the conversion coefficients by day and by night plotted against the time of year. The average amplitude of the abnormal component from one hour after sunrise to one hour before sunset has been used in making the daytime plot, and the average amplitude from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise has been used at night. The most noticeable feature of the daytime curve is the rapid increase in amplitude in October, followed by a gradual decrease in the spring. Inspection of the day-to-day records shows that the main part of the transition from summer to winter conditions occurs in the course of about four days centred on 18th October. This sudden change is similar to the "November effect" reported by the early workers,<sup>15-17</sup> who noticed large changes in the strength of low-frequency waves received across the Atlantic, within a period of a few days in November.

It will be noticed in Fig. 13 that the conversion coefficient at night undergoes a marked seasonal variation. Here again the results for the amplitude differ from those for the phase.

No simple explanation can be offered for the diurnal and seasonal variations of the amplitude. It is abundantly clear, however, that the phase and the amplitude vary in an independent manner. This evidence suggests the tentative hypothesis that reflection and absorption occur at different levels in the upper atmosphere.

#### (6) PHENOMENA OCCURRING NEAR SUNRISE

The curves of Figs. 7 and 12 show that the daily cycles of phase change and amplitude change usually start quite suddenly near sunrise, and that the times of these phenomena are closely controlled by the sun. From March to October there was a sudden decrease of amplitude occurring about one hour before ground sunrise, whereas during the other (winter) months the sunrise effect of this type was not clearly evident. No correspondingly large changes of phase were observed before ground sunrise. The reverse changes in the phase and the amplitude were observed near ground sunset. It will be noticed that the daily phase variation took place while the amplitude remained substantially constant.

Fig. 14 shows the times of occurrence of the sunrise effects in the phase and the amplitude plotted against the time of year. In all cases the points were obtained by drawing two straight lines to fit the average daily curves, one before and one after the sudden change, and taking the time at which the lines intersected. The sudden change in the phase occurred, on the average, 9 min after ground sunrise at the mid-point between the sender and receiver, and the sudden change of amplitude from March to October occurred 56 min before ground sunrise. The

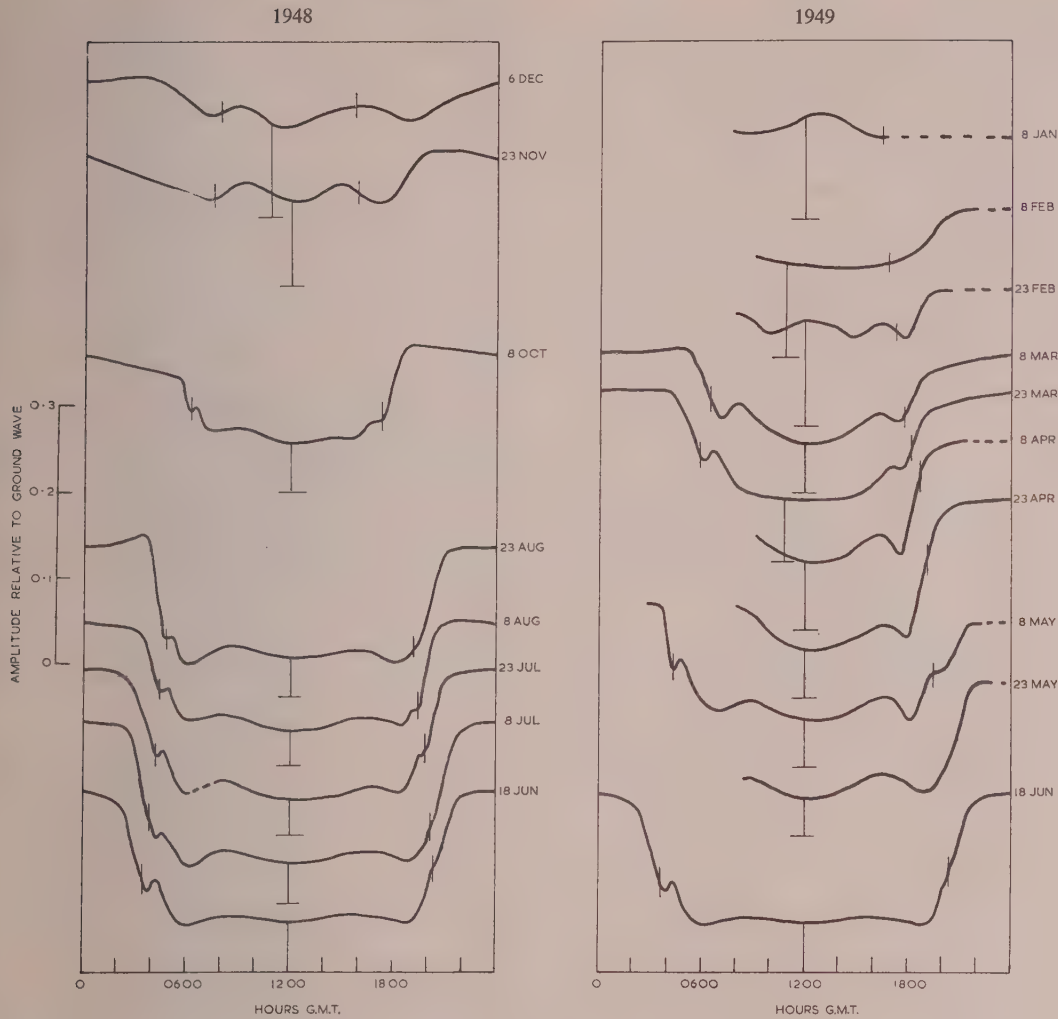


Fig. 12.—Diurnal variation of the amplitude of the abnormal component in 1948 and 1949.

Times of sunrise and sunset.

curve in Fig. 14 shows the time 9 min after ground sunrise. The dotted curve shows the time 56 min before sunrise.

#### (7) POSSIBILITY OF MORE THAN ONE DOWNCOMING WAVE

It will be noticed that there are small but regular variations of the amplitude between sunrise (sunset) and midday in the curves of Fig. 12. It has been pointed out in Section 4 that the plots of phase against  $\log \sec \chi$  revealed the presence of small but regular variations in the diurnal phase change. These variations are present from late February to October, but not during the winter (winter) months. Detailed analysis shows that the small oscillations could not have been caused either by a weak twice-reflected component or by a weak component of the ground wave, present because the aerial system was not properly adjusted. There is little doubt that both phase and amplitude variations are caused by a small wave component which interferes with the main reflected component. This weak component might be reflected from the region responsible for absorption of the main

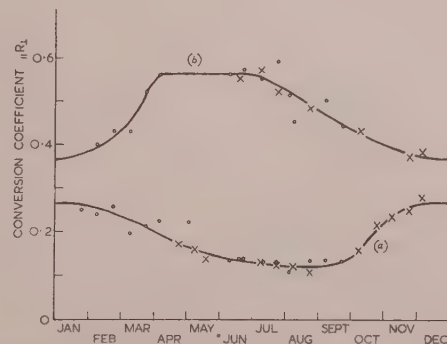


Fig. 13.—Seasonal variation of the conversion coefficient  $R_{\perp}$  by day [curve (a)] and by night [curve (b)].

× Observations made in 1948.  
○ Observations made in 1949.



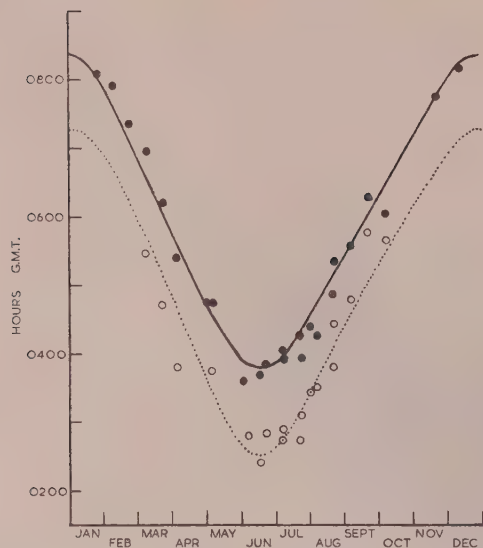


Fig. 14.—Times of occurrence of the sunrise effects on the phase and amplitude.

— 9 min after ground sunrise.  
 --- 56 min before sunrise.  
 ● Time at which the phase changes.  
 ○ Time at which the amplitude decreases.

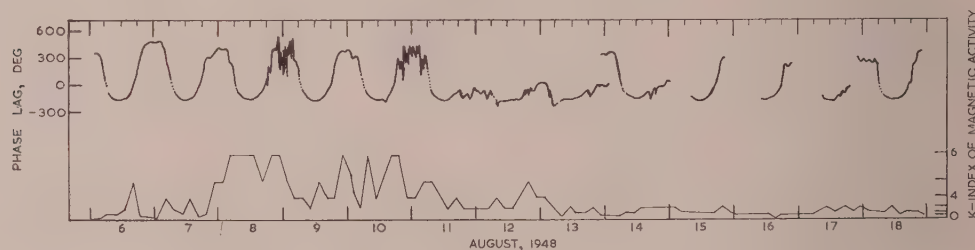


Fig. 15.—Diurnal variation of the phase of the abnormal component and variation of the  $K$ -index of magnetic activity during and after the great magnetic storm of 7th August, 1948.

component. If it were, the maximum and minimum in the amplitude near sunrise (sunset) would arise from the interference between a partially reflected component which was varying rapidly in phase as the absorbing region was formed, and the main reflected component which was substantially constant in phase at that time. The maximum and minimum amplitudes nearest midday, and also the small variations of phase, would arise from the interference between the main component which was varying in phase and the partially reflected component which, at that time, was varying more slowly. On this supposition the amplitude of the partially reflected component is about one-fifth that of the main component, although the ratio can be as high as one-third.

No clear evidence was found for the presence of a wave reflected twice from the ionosphere, although the results obtained by Bracewell<sup>5</sup> over distances of about 200km indicated that a small component should be observed on a winter day.

#### (8) ANOMALOUS EFFECTS

If the 14-day average curves for the phase and amplitude are superimposed on a plot showing the individual daily variations, it is possible to detect irregular deviations even if they are quite

small. These are found to be of two types. The first type irregularity is short-lived, lasts for periods from about minutes to an hour, and occurs during sudden ionospheric disturbances of the type which are closely associated with solar flares. Observations of this type of anomaly have been reported elsewhere<sup>4</sup> in some detail, and will not be discussed in this paper. The second type of anomaly may occur by day or night, may last for periods of several days, and may be associated but not in a very precise way, with disturbances in the magnetic field of the earth. The most violent and prolonged disturbances appear to be associated with great magnetic storms. Others occurring by night or by day may sometimes be directly associated with smaller magnetic disturbances and ionospheric storms of the type which cause irregularities in the propagation of high-frequency radio waves. These types of anomalies will be discussed below.

#### (8.1) Effects associated with Great Magnetic Storms

In August, 1948, transmissions from GBR were sufficient for the making of detailed observations of the phase and amplitude of the downcoming wave before, during and after the great magnetic storm\* of 7th August. In Fig. 15 the upper curve shows the daily variation of the phase of the period 6th to 18th August, 1948, and the lower curve shows the variation of magnetic activity as given by the figures† from the magnetic records taken at Abinger.

This world-wide storm<sup>18</sup> began suddenly at 2300h G.M.T., on 7th August, and consisted of two parts of great storm intensity.

from 0300h, 8th August, to 0300h, 9th August, and from 1300h, 9th August, to 2200h, 10th August. All magnetic observations agree that the storm had ended by midday, 12th August. The following days in this month, with the exception of the 19th and 20th, were magnetically quiet.

There were no irregularities in the behaviour of the phase or the amplitude at the time of the sudden commencement.‡ The most remarkable feature of the observations on the downcoming wave was the absence of irregularities throughout the periods of greatest storm intensity. The first unusual effects were the violent fluctuations of phase and amplitude which began at 1830h, 8th August, 19 hours after the sudden commencement. At times the phase was changing at the rate of 15

\* Magnetic storms are classified as "great" or "small" according to the range of variation of the magnetic elements.

† The  $K$  figure refers to the range of magnetic variation during each three-hour period. The lower limits of the range of variation of the horizontal field for the figures obtained at Abinger are

$K$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Range ( $r$ )	0	5	10	20	40	70	120	200	330	500

‡ It is of interest to record that sudden commencements in the Abinger magnetic records occurred on 16 occasions, some by day and some by night, when observations on signals from GBR were in progress. There were no irregularities in the behaviour of the downcoming wave on any of these occasions.

5 km in height) per minute. The behaviour during the following day and night was regular, and the records were noticeably free from large fluctuations. Violent fluctuations were observed again at 1800h, 10th August, about 20 hours after the recurrence of intense magnetic activity, and these fluctuations persisted throughout the night.

On 11th August, when the magnetic activity had returned to a low level, another and more striking phenomenon was observed in the phase variation. Instead of undergoing a regular daily variation, the phase remained substantially constant by day and night until 14th August. Gaps in the transmissions rendered it impossible to determine if the height of reflection remained at night-time level or its level at midday. During this period the daily variation of the amplitude was normal. Although on 15th and 16th August the phase underwent some diurnal variation, the slopes of the straight lines obtained by plotting  $h_X$  against  $\log \sec \chi$  (see Section 4) were markedly less than usual. Normal behaviour was resumed by 18th August. During the whole of the disturbed period the amplitude behaved normally. The accompanying ionospheric storm in the  $F_2$ -region was reported as ending at 2300h, 13th August.

Some observations on the downcoming wave were made during the great storm of the 24th January, 1949. Although the results are not as complete as those discussed above, owing to gaps in the transmissions, they indicated the same sort of abnormal behaviour for the downcoming wave.

Summarizing, it may be said that there appear to be two distinct types of anomalous behaviour associated with great magnetic storms. The first is characterized by violent fluctuations of phase and amplitude, occurring about 20 hours after the onset of great magnetic activity. The second type occurs about three days after the onset of the storm and is characterized by an abnormal daily variation of the phase which persists for as long as 10 days. Similar effects on the ionospheric propagation of low-frequency waves have been observed on signals of frequency 16 kc/s transmitted over a distance of 1000 km<sup>2</sup>, 16 kc/s over 540 km,<sup>6</sup> and 57 kc/s transmitted across the Atlantic.<sup>16</sup> Over the longer paths it was found that the anomalous behaviour sometimes lasted for several weeks.

### (8.2) Disturbances occurring by Day

The example shown in Fig. 16 is typical of a less violent type of anomaly which has been frequently observed during the day-

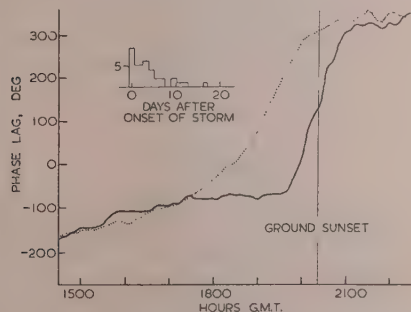


Fig. 16.—Typical example of anomalous diurnal variation of the phase of the abnormal component, 8th July, 1948.

--- Observed phase in the morning, plotted in reflection.

The histogram shows the frequency of occurrence of anomalies plotted against the number of days after the onset of the nearest magnetic storm.

For the purpose of comparison the curve showing the variation of the phase in the morning has been plotted in reflection as a dotted curve. This type of anomaly is mainly charac-

terized by an abnormal variation of the phase, such that the plots of  $h_X$  against  $\log \sec \chi$  (see Section 4) do not give satisfactory straight lines. From March, 1948, to September, 1949, 40 anomalies were observed during the daytime. With few exceptions the daily variation of the amplitude was normal, and the deviations from the regular variation of the phase represented a decrease of reflection height. Most of the anomalies occurred in the afternoon.

As some of the anomalies could be directly associated with small magnetic storms, an attempt was made to find a general correspondence between the two. The histogram in Fig. 16 shows the frequency of occurrence of anomalies plotted against the number of days after the onset of the nearest magnetic storm. Although there are obvious exceptions, the results encourage the belief that most of the anomalies observed by day are associated with magnetic storms. The apparent tendency for anomalies of this kind to occur about three days after the onset of the storm is interesting in view of the observed delay of three days, previously mentioned in connection with a great magnetic storm. This type of anomaly does not appear to be associated with ionospheric storms in the  $F_2$ -layer.

Similar effects have been observed by Bracewell<sup>5</sup> in connection with observations on waves of frequency 15.2 kc/s transmitted over a distance of 222 km.

### (8.3) Disturbances occurring at Night

Apart from smooth variations of about  $\pm 30^\circ$  occurring in a period of two or three hours, the phase of the downcoming wave remained substantially constant on most nights. On some occasions, however, large deviations of the phase were observed, and on many of these there was a corresponding decrease of the amplitude. Fig. 17 shows an example of this type of anomaly

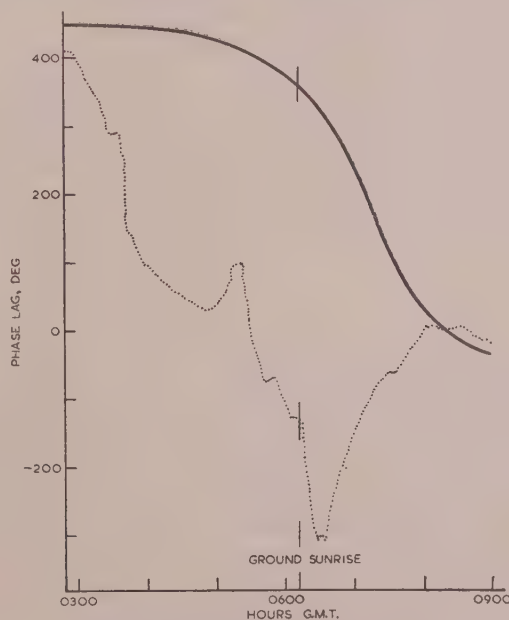


Fig. 17.—Typical example of anomalous variation of the phase of the abnormal component at night, 10th October, 1948.

— Regular variation obtained by averaging the phase over 14 days.

where the phase deviation was exceptionally large. From March, 1948, to September, 1949, 28 anomalies of this kind were observed at night. With few exceptions, the deviations observed represented a decrease of reflection height. In 10 cases



there was a corresponding decrease of the amplitude by a factor of about 0.5.

Some of the anomalies could be directly associated with small magnetic storms. This point is illustrated in a striking way in Fig. 18, which shows the deviation of the phase from the mean

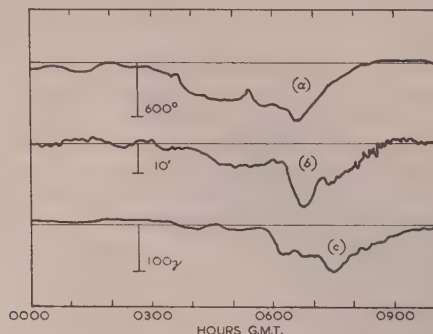


Fig. 18.—Deviation of the phase for the anomaly shown in Fig. 17, compared with the variation of the magnetic field at Abinger, England, and Cheltenham, U.S.A., 10th October, 1948.

- (a) Deviation of the phase on 16 kc/s.  
 (b) Variation of the magnetic declination at Abinger.  
 (c) Variation of the vertical magnetic field at Cheltenham.

curve for the anomaly shown in Fig. 17, together with the variations of the magnetic field at Abinger, England, and Cheltenham, U.S.A. As the phase records and the magnetic conditions were not greatly disturbed on the days preceding and following this disturbance, there can be little doubt regarding the direct connection between the two phenomena. This magnetic storm was world-wide in character, and was accompanied by an ionospheric storm in the  $F_2$ -layer.

Anomalies of this type could be clearly associated with magnetic disturbances in 9 cases out of 28. In many cases, however, similar phase effects occurred during magnetically quiet periods, and in other cases there was no phase anomaly when the magnetic elements were disturbed. It is evident that the two effects are not related in a simple manner.

Although ionospheric storms in the  $F_2$ -region may be associated with some of these anomalies, it is obvious that the two phenomena are not related in a clear-cut way.

#### (9) CONCLUSIONS

The principal conclusions may be summarized as follows:

(a) Simultaneous observations on two frequencies transmitted over comparable distances lead to the conclusions that reflection would take place from an apparent height of  $69.0 \pm 0.25$  km if the sun were overhead, and that the daily cycle of phase change, and changes of phase during sudden ionospheric disturbances, are related to real changes in the height of reflection.

(b) The apparent height of reflection varies in a smooth and regular way with the inclination of the sun's rays as given by the equation

$$h_x = h_{x=0} + A(t) \log \sec \chi \quad (4)$$

where  $A(t)$  is a factor which varies slowly with the time of year with a marked semi-annual periodicity. The height variation is asymmetrically disposed about local noon in such a way that the magnitude of  $A(t)$  for the mornings is greater than that for the afternoons. The height of reflection at night is about 87 km at all times of the year. The total change of height in passing from midday to midnight is 16.8 km in mid-summer and 13.5 km in winter.

(c) The amplitude of the downcoming wave varies in a regular way throughout the day in summer, while in winter it remains substantially constant by day and night. Marked seasonal variations of the amplitude are observed by day and night, the two variations having independent characteristics. The conversion coefficient is about 0.13 on a summer day and 0.26 on a winter day, whereas at night the coefficient is 0.56 in summer and 0.37 in winter.

(d) The absorption and the height of reflection are closely controlled by the sun, but in different ways. The change in absorption occurs about 56 min before ground sunrise, whereas the regular daily changes in the apparent height start about 9 min after sunrise.

(e) Small regular variations of the amplitude and the phase, superimposed on the main daily variations, are explicable on the assumption that reflection occurs from two levels.

(f) There are three distinct types of anomalous behaviour which appear to be associated with disturbances in the magnetic field of the earth, but not in a clear-cut way. The anomalous effects which occur during and after great magnetic storms appear to be similar in nature to those observed with low-frequency transmissions over a distance of 540 km, and over the Atlantic the anomaly lasting for many days after the end of the magnetic effect. Anomalies of a less violent nature, which occur by day and by night, appear to be associated with small magnetic storms, but not in a simple manner.

#### (10) ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The work described was carried out as part of the programme of radio research at the Cavendish Laboratory, supported by a grant from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Acknowledgment is made to the New Zealand Government, the Council of St. John's College, and to the Director of the Cavendish Laboratory for scholarships and grants which enabled this work to be carried out.

The author wishes to express his thanks to his colleagues at Cambridge who have helped with the experimental observations, particularly to Dr. R. N. Bracewell, Dr. J. Harwood and Mr. P. M. Thompson for helpful discussions and active assistance. For assistance with the tedious analysis of the long series of records, he is indebted to Mrs. I. Jermyn and Mrs. N. Stanbury. He also wishes to thank the Post Office Engineering Department for providing special transmissions from GBR, sometimes on short notice. He is greatly indebted to Messrs. H. W. Newton and W. Jackson of the Royal Greenwich Observatory for supplying much information regarding magnetic activity prior to the advance of publication.

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## A TABLE OF A FUNCTION USED IN RADIO-PROPAGATION THEORY

By F. HORNER, M.Sc., Associate Member.

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## SUMMARY

Real and imaginary components of the complex integral  $1 + 2j\sqrt{(\omega)\epsilon^{-\omega}} \int_{-j\sqrt{\omega}}^{\infty} \epsilon^{-x^2} dx$  are tabulated as a function of  $\omega$ . The

Tables are prepared for real components of  $\omega$  in the range 0 to 10, associated with imaginary components in the range  $-10$  to  $0$ .

For the calculation of the field from an aerial, expressions are used which are based on the theory of Sommerfeld<sup>1</sup> and which involve a factor  $F(\omega)$  given by<sup>2,3</sup>

$$F(\omega) = 1 + 2j\sqrt{(\omega)\epsilon^{-\omega}} \int_{-j\sqrt{\omega}}^{\infty} \epsilon^{-x^2} dx \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

The parameter  $\omega$  depends on the form and position of the aerial; with an elevated vertical electric dipole, for example,<sup>3</sup>

$$\omega = \frac{-4\pi j(h_t + h_r)^2}{d(1 + \rho_v)^2}$$

where  $h_t$  = Height of transmitting dipole above ground level.

$h_r$  = Height of receiving aerial above ground level.

$\lambda$  = Wavelength.

$d$  = Horizontal distance between transmitter and receiver.

$\rho_v$  = Complex reflection coefficient at the ground for vertically polarized waves.

If the distance  $d$  is not small compared with the wavelength, the vertical electric field  $E$  can then be expressed in the form

$$E = \frac{60\pi m}{\lambda} \left\{ \frac{1}{R_1} \epsilon^{-2\pi j R_1 / \lambda} + [\rho_v + (1 - \rho_v)F(\omega)] \frac{1}{R_2} \epsilon^{-2\pi j R_2 / \lambda} \right\} \quad (2)$$

in which  $m$  = Moment of the transmitting dipole.

$R_1$  = Length of the direct ray between transmitter and receiver.

$R_2$  = Length of the ground-reflected ray plane earth.

Eqn. (2) has been given as an example, but  $F(\omega)$  and related functions occur more generally in radio-propagation problems.

Norton<sup>4</sup> has given the following series for the evaluation of  $F(\omega)$ :

$$F(\omega) = -\frac{1}{2\omega} - \frac{1 \times 3}{(2\omega)^2} - \frac{1 \times 3 \times 5}{(2\omega)^3} - \dots \text{ for } |\omega| > 10 \quad (3)$$

$$= 1 + j\sqrt{(\pi\omega)\epsilon^{-\omega}} - 2\omega + \frac{(2\omega)^2}{1 \times 3} - \frac{(2\omega)^3}{1 \times 3 \times 5} + \dots \text{ for } |\omega| \text{ small} \quad (4)$$

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.

The paper is an official communication from the Radio Research Station, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

and has expressed graphically the modulus and phase angle  $F(\omega)$ , for a wide range of values of  $\omega$ , in terms of its modulus and phase angle. He has also given<sup>2</sup> a short Table of values  $|F(\omega)|$ , and Burrows<sup>5</sup> has plotted a similar function.

In some types of calculation, in particular those involving ground reflection coefficients in the form given by McPetrie,<sup>6</sup> it is convenient to have values of the real and imaginary parts of  $F(\omega)$  expressed in terms of the real and imaginary parts of  $\omega$ .

Tables of values of the function  $F(\omega)$  have therefore been prepared by E. J. York at the National Physical Laboratory in collaboration with the Radio Research Station. The Ace Plot Model was used for the computations.

Real and imaginary components of  $\omega$  are denoted by  $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$  and  $\mathcal{I}(\omega)$ ; and three Tables are given. Table 1 is for values of  $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$  and  $-\mathcal{I}(\omega)$  between 0 and 10 at intervals of 0.5. Table 2 is for values of  $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$  and  $-\mathcal{I}(\omega)$  between 0 and 2 at intervals of 0.1. Table 3 is for values of  $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$  and  $-\mathcal{I}(\omega)$  between 0 and 0.5 at intervals of 0.05.

A Table of an associated function

$$G(\rho) = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)} \epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}j\pi\rho^2} \int_0^{\infty} \epsilon^{-\frac{1}{2}j\pi\lambda^2} d\lambda \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

has been compiled by Clemmow and Mumford<sup>7</sup> for use in similar wave-propagation problems. The relationship between  $F(\omega)$  and  $G(\rho)$  is obtained by putting

$$\lambda = x\sqrt{\left(\frac{2}{j\pi}\right)} \quad \text{and} \quad \rho = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2j\omega}{\pi}\right)}$$

and  $F(\omega)$  can be obtained from Clemmow's tables by means of the relationship

$$F(\omega) = 1 + 2\sqrt{(-j\omega)G\left[\sqrt{\left(\frac{2j\omega}{\pi}\right)}\right]} \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

Clemmow and Mumford effectively tabulate  $F(\omega)$  at closer intervals of  $\omega$  than is done in the present Tables and to the fourth decimal place, but the Tables given here cover a wider range of values of  $\omega$ .

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## REFERENCES

See page 137.

Table 1a  
REAL PART OF  $F(\omega)$

$\mathcal{H}(\omega)$	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0	9.5	10.0
0.0	+1.000	+0.323	+0.191	+0.127	+0.091	+0.068	+0.053	+0.042	+0.034	+0.028	+0.024	+0.020	+0.017	+0.015	+0.013	+0.011	+0.010	+0.009	+0.008	+0.008	+0.007
0.5	+0.275	+0.196	+0.125	+0.085	+0.061	+0.046	+0.035	+0.028	+0.023	+0.019	+0.016	+0.014	+0.012	+0.010	+0.009	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.006	+0.006	+0.005
1.0	+0.076	+0.029	+0.029	+0.027	+0.023	+0.019	+0.015	+0.012	+0.010	+0.009	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.005	+0.004	+0.004	+0.003	+0.003	+0.003	+0.003	+0.003
1.5	+0.229	+0.111	+0.055	+0.028	+0.016	+0.009	+0.006	+0.004	+0.003	+0.002	+0.001	+0.001	+0.001	+0.001	+0.001	+0.001	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000
2.0	+0.280	+0.176	+0.111	+0.072	+0.049	+0.035	+0.026	+0.019	+0.015	+0.012	+0.010	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.005	+0.005	+0.004	+0.004	+0.003	+0.002	+0.002
2.5	+0.281	+0.200	+0.142	+0.101	+0.074	+0.055	+0.042	+0.033	+0.027	+0.022	+0.018	+0.015	+0.013	+0.011	+0.010	+0.008	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.005	+0.005
3.0	+0.261	+0.202	+0.142	+0.101	+0.074	+0.055	+0.042	+0.033	+0.027	+0.022	+0.018	+0.015	+0.013	+0.011	+0.010	+0.008	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.005	+0.005
3.5	+0.234	+0.192	+0.134	+0.101	+0.074	+0.055	+0.042	+0.033	+0.027	+0.022	+0.018	+0.015	+0.013	+0.011	+0.010	+0.008	+0.008	+0.007	+0.006	+0.005	+0.005
4.0	+0.205	+0.176	+0.148	+0.123	+0.102	+0.085	+0.071	+0.059	+0.050	+0.043	+0.037	+0.032	+0.028	+0.024	+0.021	+0.019	+0.017	+0.015	+0.014	+0.012	+0.011
4.5	+0.180	+0.160	+0.139	+0.120	+0.102	+0.087	+0.074	+0.063	+0.054	+0.047	+0.041	+0.036	+0.031	+0.028	+0.025	+0.022	+0.020	+0.018	+0.016	+0.015	+0.013
5.0	+0.157	+0.144	+0.129	+0.114	+0.099	+0.087	+0.075	+0.065	+0.057	+0.050	+0.044	+0.039	+0.034	+0.030	+0.027	+0.024	+0.022	+0.020	+0.018	+0.017	+0.015
5.5	+0.138	+0.129	+0.118	+0.107	+0.095	+0.085	+0.073	+0.066	+0.058	+0.052	+0.046	+0.041	+0.036	+0.033	+0.029	+0.026	+0.024	+0.022	+0.020	+0.018	+0.017
6.0	+0.122	+0.116	+0.108	+0.100	+0.090	+0.082	+0.076	+0.069	+0.063	+0.057	+0.051	+0.045	+0.039	+0.036	+0.033	+0.030	+0.027	+0.025	+0.023	+0.021	+0.018
6.5	+0.109	+0.105	+0.099	+0.093	+0.085	+0.078	+0.071	+0.065	+0.059	+0.053	+0.048	+0.043	+0.037	+0.036	+0.033	+0.030	+0.027	+0.025	+0.023	+0.021	+0.020
7.0	+0.098	+0.095	+0.091	+0.086	+0.080	+0.075	+0.069	+0.063	+0.058	+0.053	+0.048	+0.043	+0.041	+0.037	+0.034	+0.031	+0.029	+0.026	+0.024	+0.022	+0.021
7.5	+0.089	+0.087	+0.084	+0.080	+0.076	+0.071	+0.066	+0.061	+0.056	+0.052	+0.048	+0.044	+0.041	+0.038	+0.035	+0.032	+0.029	+0.027	+0.025	+0.023	+0.022
8.0	+0.082	+0.080	+0.076	+0.075	+0.071	+0.067	+0.063	+0.059	+0.055	+0.051	+0.048	+0.044	+0.041	+0.038	+0.035	+0.033	+0.030	+0.028	+0.026	+0.024	+0.023
8.5	+0.075	+0.074	+0.072	+0.070	+0.067	+0.064	+0.061	+0.057	+0.054	+0.050	+0.047	+0.044	+0.041	+0.038	+0.035	+0.033	+0.031	+0.029	+0.027	+0.025	+0.024
9.0	+0.070	+0.067	+0.066	+0.066	+0.066	+0.064	+0.061	+0.058	+0.055	+0.052	+0.049	+0.046	+0.043	+0.040	+0.037	+0.035	+0.033	+0.031	+0.029	+0.027	+0.026
9.5	+0.064	+0.064	+0.063	+0.062	+0.060	+0.058	+0.055	+0.053	+0.050	+0.047	+0.045	+0.042	+0.040	+0.037	+0.035	+0.033	+0.031	+0.029	+0.027	+0.026	+0.024
10.0	+0.060	+0.061	+0.060	+0.058	+0.056	+0.055	+0.053	+0.051	+0.048	+0.046	+0.043	+0.041	+0.040	+0.037	+0.035	+0.033	+0.031	+0.029	+0.027	+0.026	+0.024

Table 1b  
IMAGINARY PART OF  $F(\omega)$

$\mathcal{H}(\omega)$	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5	9.0	9.5	10.0
0.0	-0.000	-0.268	-0.232	-0.198	-0.171	-0.150	-0.132	-0.119	-0.107	-0.098	-0.089	-0.083	-0.077	-0.072	-0.067	-0.063	-0.060	-0.057	-0.054	-0.051	-0.048
0.5	-0.760	-0.436	-0.306	-0.238	-0.195	-0.165	-0.143	-0.126	-0.113	-0.102	-0.093	-0.085	-0.079	-0.073	-0.069	-0.064	-0.061	-0.057	-0.054	-0.051	-0.049
1.0	-0.652	-0.454	-0.330	-0.255	-0.207	-0.174	-0.149	-0.131	-0.116	-0.105	-0.095	-0.087	-0.080	-0.074	-0.069	-0.065	-0.061	-0.058	-0.054	-0.052	-0.049
1.5	-0.484	-0.390	-0.308	-0.248	-0.205	-0.173	-0.149	-0.131	-0.117	-0.105	-0.095	-0.087	-0.080	-0.074	-0.070	-0.065	-0.061	-0.058	-0.055	-0.052	-0.049
2.0	-0.339	-0.306	-0.263	-0.223	-0.191	-0.165	-0.144	-0.128	-0.114	-0.103	-0.094	-0.086	-0.078	-0.074	-0.069	-0.065	-0.060	-0.057	-0.055	-0.052	-0.049
2.5	-0.230	-0.230	-0.213	-0.192	-0.170	-0.151	-0.135	-0.121	-0.110	-0.100	-0.092	-0.084	-0.078	-0.073	-0.068	-0.064	-0.060	-0.057	-0.054	-0.051	-0.049
3.0	-0.153	-0.168	-0.167	-0.159	-0.147	-0.135	-0.123	-0.113	-0.103	-0.095	-0.088	-0.081	-0.075	-0.070	-0.065	-0.061	-0.058	-0.055	-0.053	-0.050	-0.048
3.5	-0.100	-0.121	-0.129	-0.129	-0.125	-0.118	-0.110	-0.103	-0.096	-0.089	-0.083	-0.078	-0.073	-0.068	-0.065	-0.062	-0.059	-0.056	-0.053	-0.050	-0.048
4.0	-0.065	-0.087	-0.099	-0.104	-0.104	-0.102	-0.097	-0.093	-0.088	-0.083	-0.078	-0.072	-0.066	-0.062	-0.059	-0.057	-0.055	-0.052	-0.050	-0.047	-0.046
4.5	-0.042	-0.062	-0.075	-0.083	-0.085	-0.087	-0.085	-0.083	-0.079	-0.076	-0.072	-0.069	-0.066	-0.062	-0.059	-0.057	-0.055	-0.052	-0.050	-0.048	-0.046
5.0	-0.027	-0.045	-0.058	-0.066	-0.071	-0.074	-0.074	-0.073	-0.071	-0.069	-0.067	-0.064	-0.062	-0.059	-0.057	-0.055	-0.052	-0.050	-0.048	-0.046	-0.044
5.5	-0.017	-0.033	-0.044	-0.053	-0.059	-0.062	-0.064	-0.064	-0.064	-0.063	-0.061	-0.059	-0.057	-0.055	-0.054	-0.052	-0.050	-0.048	-0.046	-0.045	-0.043
6.0	-0.011	-0.024	-0.035	-0.043	-0.049	-0.053	-0.055	-0.057	-0.057	-0.057	-0.056	-0.055	-0.053	-0.052	-0.051	-0.049	-0.048	-0.046	-0.044	-0.043	-0.042
6.5	-0.007	-0.018	-0.027	-0.035	-0.041	-0.045	-0.048	-0.050	-0.051	-0.051	-0.051	-0.050	-0.049	-0.048	-0.047	-0.046	-0.044	-0.043	-0.042	-0.041	-0.040
7.0	-0.004	-0.014	-0.022	-0.029	-0.034	-0.039	-0.042	-0.044	-0.045	-0.046	-0.046	-0.046	-0.046	-0.046	-0.044	-0.044	-0.043	-0.041	-0.040	-0.039	-0.038
7.5	-0.003	-0.011	-0.018	-0.024	-0.029	-0.033	-0.036	-0.039	-0.040	-0.042	-0.042	-0.042	-0.042	-0.042	-0.041	-0.041	-0.040	-0.039	-0.039	-0.038	-0.037
8.0	-0.002	-0.008	-0.015	-0.020	-0.025	-0.029	-0.032	-0.034	-0.035	-0.037	-0.038	-0.039	-0.039	-0.039	-0.039	-0.038	-0.038	-0.037	-0.036	-0.036	-0.035
8.5	-0.001	-0.005	-0.012	-0.018	-0.023	-0.027	-0.029	-0.030	-0.032	-0.033	-0.034	-0.035	-0.036	-0.036	-0.036	-0.036	-0.035	-0.035	-0.034	-0.034	-0.033
9.0	-0.001	-0.005	-0.012	-0.018	-0.023	-0.027	-0.029	-0.030	-0.032	-0.033	-0.034	-0.035	-0.036	-0.036	-0.036	-0.036	-0.035	-0.035	-0.034	-0.034	-0.033
9.5	-0.000	-0.004	-0.008	-0.013	-0.016	-0.019	-0.022	-0.024	-0.026	-0.028	-0.029	-0.030	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031	-0.031
10.0	+0.000	-0.004	-0.008	-0.011	-0.013	-0.017	-0.019	-0.022	-0.023	-0.025	-0.025	-0.027	-0.028	-0.029	-0.029	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030	-0.030	-0.029	-0.029



Table 2A  
REAL PART OF  $F(\omega)$ 

$\mathcal{R}(\omega)$	$\mathcal{I}(\omega) \rightarrow$	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
0.0	$\rightarrow$	+1.000	+0.632	+0.509	+0.428	+0.369	+0.323	+0.286	+0.256	+0.231	+0.209	+0.191	+0.174	+0.160	+0.148	+0.137	+0.127	+0.118	+0.110	+0.103	+0.096	+0.091
0.1	$\rightarrow$	+0.813	+0.627	+0.503	+0.420	+0.359	+0.313	+0.276	+0.246	+0.221	+0.200	+0.182	+0.166	+0.152	+0.140	+0.130	+0.120	+0.112	+0.104	+0.097	+0.091	+0.086
0.2	$\rightarrow$	+0.649	+0.549	+0.460	+0.390	+0.336	+0.294	+0.260	+0.231	+0.208	+0.188	+0.171	+0.156	+0.142	+0.130	+0.122	+0.113	+0.105	+0.098	+0.091	+0.085	+0.080
0.3	$\rightarrow$	+0.507	+0.453	+0.396	+0.345	+0.302	+0.266	+0.237	+0.212	+0.191	+0.173	+0.156	+0.140	+0.126	+0.114	+0.106	+0.098	+0.090	+0.082	+0.077	+0.072	+0.068
0.4	$\rightarrow$	+0.383	+0.357	+0.325	+0.291	+0.261	+0.233	+0.210	+0.189	+0.171	+0.153	+0.136	+0.120	+0.108	+0.100	+0.092	+0.085	+0.079	+0.074	+0.069	+0.065	+0.061
0.5	$\rightarrow$	+0.275	+0.269	+0.254	+0.235	+0.215	+0.196	+0.179	+0.163	+0.149	+0.136	+0.125	+0.115	+0.106	+0.098	+0.091	+0.085	+0.079	+0.074	+0.069	+0.065	+0.061
0.6	$\rightarrow$	+0.182	+0.190	+0.188	+0.175	+0.158	+0.138	+0.116	+0.093	+0.069	+0.045	+0.021	+0.001	+0.024	+0.048	+0.072	+0.096	+0.119	+0.142	+0.165	+0.188	+0.211
0.7	$\rightarrow$	+0.092	+0.085	+0.080	+0.077	+0.081	+0.082	+0.081	+0.078	+0.075	+0.072	+0.068	+0.064	+0.061	+0.057	+0.054	+0.051	+0.048	+0.046	+0.044	+0.041	+0.039
0.8	$\rightarrow$	+0.036	+0.000	+0.030	+0.033	+0.041	+0.047	+0.049	+0.051	+0.051	+0.050	+0.049	+0.047	+0.045	+0.043	+0.041	+0.039	+0.037	+0.036	+0.034	+0.032	+0.031
0.9	$\rightarrow$	-0.078	-0.047	-0.025	-0.008	+0.005	+0.013	+0.020	+0.024	+0.027	+0.028	+0.029	+0.030	+0.029	+0.029	+0.028	+0.027	+0.027	+0.026	+0.025	+0.024	+0.023
1.0	$\rightarrow$	-0.122	-0.089	-0.064	-0.044	-0.029	-0.017	-0.008	-0.001	+0.004	+0.008	+0.011	+0.013	+0.014	+0.015	+0.015	+0.016	+0.016	+0.016	+0.016	+0.015	+0.015
1.1	$\rightarrow$	-0.157	-0.124	-0.097	-0.076	-0.058	-0.045	-0.033	-0.024	-0.017	-0.012	-0.007	-0.004	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001
1.2	$\rightarrow$	-0.185	-0.153	-0.126	-0.104	-0.085	-0.069	-0.056	-0.046	-0.037	-0.030	-0.024	-0.019	-0.015	-0.012	-0.009	-0.007	-0.005	-0.004	-0.003	-0.002	-0.001
1.3	$\rightarrow$	-0.209	-0.178	-0.151	-0.128	-0.108	-0.091	-0.077	-0.065	-0.055	-0.047	-0.040	-0.034	-0.029	-0.025	-0.021	-0.018	-0.015	-0.013	-0.011	-0.010	-0.008
1.4	$\rightarrow$	-0.229	-0.199	-0.172	-0.149	-0.129	-0.111	-0.096	-0.083	-0.072	-0.063	-0.055	-0.048	-0.042	-0.037	-0.032	-0.028	-0.025	-0.022	-0.020	-0.018	-0.016
1.5	$\rightarrow$	-0.245	-0.216	-0.189	-0.166	-0.146	-0.128	-0.113	-0.099	-0.087	-0.077	-0.068	-0.060	-0.054	-0.048	-0.043	-0.038	-0.034	-0.031	-0.028	-0.025	-0.023
1.6	$\rightarrow$	-0.258	-0.229	-0.204	-0.181	-0.161	-0.143	-0.127	-0.112	-0.100	-0.089	-0.081	-0.072	-0.065	-0.058	-0.053	-0.048	-0.043	-0.039	-0.036	-0.033	-0.030
1.7	$\rightarrow$	-0.268	-0.241	-0.216	-0.194	-0.174	-0.156	-0.140	-0.125	-0.113	-0.102	-0.092	-0.083	-0.075	-0.068	-0.062	-0.056	-0.052	-0.047	-0.043	-0.040	-0.037
1.8	$\rightarrow$	-0.275	-0.249	-0.225	-0.204	-0.184	-0.167	-0.151	-0.136	-0.124	-0.112	-0.102	-0.093	-0.084	-0.077	-0.070	-0.065	-0.059	-0.055	-0.050	-0.046	-0.043
1.9	$\rightarrow$	-0.280	-0.255	-0.233	-0.212	-0.193	-0.176	-0.160	-0.146	-0.133	-0.121	-0.111	-0.101	-0.093	-0.085	-0.078	-0.072	-0.067	-0.061	-0.057	-0.053	-0.049
2.0	$\rightarrow$	-0.280	-0.255	-0.233	-0.212	-0.193	-0.176	-0.160	-0.146	-0.133	-0.121	-0.111	-0.101	-0.093	-0.085	-0.078	-0.072	-0.067	-0.061	-0.057	-0.053	-0.049

Table 2B

IMAGINARY PART OF  $F(\omega)$ 

$\mathcal{R}(\omega)$	$\mathcal{I}(\omega) \rightarrow$	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
0.0	$\rightarrow$	-0.000	-0.234	-0.265	-0.273	-0.273	-0.268	-0.262	-0.255	-0.248	-0.240	-0.232	-0.225	-0.218	-0.211	-0.204	-0.198	-0.192	-0.187	-0.181	-0.176	-0.171
0.1	$\rightarrow$	+0.507	+0.403	+0.365	+0.343	+0.325	+0.309	+0.295	+0.282	+0.271	+0.259	+0.249	+0.240	+0.231	+0.222	+0.215	+0.207	+0.200	+0.194	+0.188	+0.182	+0.177
0.2	$\rightarrow$	+0.649	+0.528	+0.456	+0.409	+0.375	+0.349	+0.327	+0.309	+0.293	+0.278	+0.266	+0.254	+0.243	+0.233	+0.224	+0.216	+0.208	+0.201	+0.193	+0.187	+0.182
0.3	$\rightarrow$	+0.719	+0.605	+0.522	+0.463	+0.419	+0.385	+0.357	+0.333	+0.314	+0.296	+0.281	+0.267	+0.255	+0.244	+0.233	+0.224	+0.216	+0.208	+0.200	+0.193	+0.187
0.4	$\rightarrow$	+0.751	+0.648	+0.566	+0.503	+0.453	+0.414	+0.381	+0.353	+0.332	+0.312	+0.294	+0.279	+0.265	+0.253	+0.242	+0.232	+0.222	+0.213	+0.205	+0.198	+0.191
0.5	$\rightarrow$	-0.760	-0.668	-0.591	-0.529	-0.478	-0.436	-0.401	-0.371	-0.347	-0.325	-0.306	-0.289	-0.274	-0.261	-0.249	-0.238	-0.228	-0.219	-0.210	-0.202	-0.195
0.6	$\rightarrow$	-0.753	-0.672	-0.602	-0.543	-0.492	-0.450	-0.414	-0.384	-0.358	-0.335	-0.315	-0.298	-0.282	-0.268	-0.255	-0.244	-0.233	-0.223	-0.214	-0.206	-0.199
0.7	$\rightarrow$	-0.736	-0.666	-0.602	-0.548	-0.500	-0.459	-0.423	-0.391	-0.367	-0.343	-0.322	-0.304	-0.288	-0.273	-0.260	-0.248	-0.237	-0.227	-0.218	-0.209	-0.201
0.8	$\rightarrow$	-0.712	-0.651	-0.593	-0.541	-0.494	-0.452	-0.415	-0.382	-0.350	-0.327	-0.306	-0.287	-0.271	-0.256	-0.243	-0.230	-0.219	-0.210	-0.201	-0.192	-0.184
0.9	$\rightarrow$	-0.684	-0.631	-0.582	-0.537	-0.496	-0.460	-0.428	-0.399	-0.373	-0.350	-0.330	-0.312	-0.295	-0.280	-0.266	-0.254	-0.243	-0.232	-0.223	-0.214	-0.206
1.0	$\rightarrow$	-0.652	-0.607	-0.564	-0.524	-0.488	-0.454	-0.424	-0.397	-0.373	-0.350	-0.330	-0.312	-0.296	-0.281	-0.268	-0.255	-0.244	-0.234	-0.224	-0.215	-0.207
1.1	$\rightarrow$	-0.619	-0.580	-0.543	-0.508	-0.476	-0.445	-0.418	-0.392	-0.369	-0.348	-0.329	-0.312	-0.296	-0.281	-0.268	-0.256	-0.244	-0.234	-0.225	-0.216	-0.208
1.2	$\rightarrow$	-0.585	-0.552	-0.520	-0.490	-0.461	-0.434	-0.409	-0.385	-0.364	-0.344	-0.326	-0.309	-0.294	-0.280	-0.267	-0.255	-0.244	-0.234	-0.224	-0.216	-0.208
1.3	$\rightarrow$	-0.551	-0.524	-0.496	-0.470	-0.445	-0.420	-0.398	-0.376	-0.357	-0.338	-0.321	-0.305	-0.291	-0.277	-0.265	-0.253	-0.243	-0.234	-0.224	-0.215	-0.207
1.4	$\rightarrow$	-0.517	-0.495	-0.472	-0.449	-0.427	-0.406	-0.385	-0.366	-0.348	-0.331	-0.315	-0.300	-0.287	-0.274	-0.262	-0.251	-0.241	-0.231	-0.222	-0.214	-0.206
1.5	$\rightarrow$	-0.484	-0.466	-0.447	-0.428	-0.408	-0.390	-0.372	-0.355	-0.338	-0.323	-0.308	-0.295	-0.282	-0.270	-0.258	-0.248	-0.238	-0.229	-0.220	-0.212	-0.203
1.6	$\rightarrow$	-0.453	-0.438	-0.422	-0.406	-0.389	-0.373	-0.358	-0.342	-0.326	-0.314	-0.300	-0.288	-0.276	-0.265	-0.254	-0.244	-0.235	-0.226	-0.218	-0.210	-0.203
1.7	$\rightarrow$	-0.422	-0.408	-0.398	-0.384	-0.370	-0.356	-0.343	-0.329	-0.316	-0.304	-0.292	-0.280	-0.269	-0.259	-0.249	-0.240	-0.231	-0.222	-0.213	-0.204	-0.197
1.8	$\rightarrow$	-0.393	-0.384	-0.374	-0.363	-0.351	-0.340	-0.328	-0.316	-0.305	-0.294	-0.283	-0.272	-0.262	-0.252	-0.243	-0.234	-0.225	-0.216	-0.207	-0.200	-0.193
1.9	$\rightarrow$	-0.365	-0.359	-0.351	-0.342	-0.333	-0.323	-0.313	-0.303	-0.293	-0.283	-0.273	-0.264	-0.254	-0.246	-0.237	-0.229	-0.222	-0.214	-0.207	-0.201	-0.194
2.0	$\rightarrow$	-0.339	-0.335	-0.329	-0.322	-0.314	-0.306	-0.298	-0.289	-0.280	-0.272	-0.263	-0.255	-0.247	-0.239	-0.231	-0.223	-0.216	-0.210	-0.203	-0.197	-0.191

Table 3A  
REAL PART OF  $F(\omega)$

$-\mathcal{F}(\omega) \rightarrow$

	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.30	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50
0.00	+1.000	+0.731	+0.632	+0.563	+0.509	+0.465	-0.428	+0.397	+0.369	+0.345	+0.323
0.05	0.903	0.750	0.644	0.569	0.511	0.465	0.427	0.394	0.366	0.341	0.319
0.10	0.813	0.713	0.627	0.558	0.503	0.458	0.420	0.388	0.359	0.335	0.313
0.15	0.728	0.658	0.592	0.535	0.485	0.443	0.407	0.377	0.350	0.326	0.305
0.20	0.649	0.599	0.549	0.502	0.460	0.423	0.390	0.362	0.336	0.314	0.294
0.25	+0.576	+0.539	+0.501	+0.464	+0.429	+0.398	+0.369	+0.343	+0.320	+0.300	+0.281
0.30	0.507	0.481	0.453	0.424	0.396	0.370	0.345	0.323	0.302	0.283	0.266
0.35	0.443	0.425	0.404	0.383	0.361	0.339	0.319	0.300	0.282	0.266	0.250
0.40	0.383	0.372	0.357	0.342	0.325	0.308	0.291	0.276	0.261	0.246	0.233
0.45	0.327	0.321	0.312	0.301	0.289	0.276	0.263	0.251	0.238	0.226	0.215
0.50	+0.275	+0.274	+0.269	+0.262	+0.254	+0.245	+0.235	+0.225	+0.215	+0.206	+0.196

Table 3B  
IMAGINARY PART OF  $F(\omega)$

$-\mathcal{F}(\omega) \rightarrow$

	0.00	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.30	0.35	0.40	0.45	0.50
0.00	−0.000	−0.194	−0.234	−0.254	−0.265	−0.271	−0.273	−0.273	−0.273	−0.271	−0.268
0.05	0.377	0.329	0.320	0.317	0.315	0.312	0.308	0.303	0.299	0.294	0.289
0.10	0.507	0.440	0.403	0.381	0.365	0.353	0.343	0.334	0.325	0.317	0.309
0.15	0.591	0.521	0.473	0.438	0.413	0.393	0.377	0.363	0.351	0.340	0.330
0.20	0.649	0.581	0.528	0.487	0.456	0.430	0.409	0.391	0.375	0.362	0.349
0.25	−0.690	−0.625	−0.571	−0.528	−0.492	−0.463	−0.438	−0.417	−0.398	−0.382	−0.368
0.30	0.719	0.657	0.605	0.560	0.522	0.490	0.463	0.440	0.419	0.401	0.385
0.35	0.739	0.681	0.630	0.585	0.547	0.514	0.485	0.460	0.437	0.418	0.400
0.40	0.751	0.697	0.648	0.604	0.566	0.532	0.503	0.477	0.453	0.432	0.414
0.45	0.758	0.707	0.660	0.618	0.581	0.547	0.517	0.491	0.467	0.445	0.426
0.50	−0.760	−0.712	−0.668	−0.628	−0.591	−0.558	−0.529	−0.502	−0.478	−0.456	−0.436

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$$\sqrt{(\frac{1}{2}\pi)}e^{\frac{1}{2}i\pi\rho^2} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{1}{2}i\pi\lambda^2} d\lambda \text{ for Complex Values of } \rho,$$

*Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London*, A, 1952, **245**, p. 189.



## LEAKAGE FLUX AND SURFACE POLARITY IN IRON RING STAMPINGS

By P. HAMMOND, M.A., Associate Member.

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## SUMMARY

The paper deals with the conduction of magnetic flux through iron circuits magnetized by windings which surround only a part of the iron.

The complete solution is obtained for an infinitely long hollow iron cylinder magnetized by a single current loop, and it is shown that surface polarity on the iron plays a dominant part in causing the flux to be substantially constant at all sections around the circumference of the cylinder.

Experimental evidence is brought forward in support of the theoretical investigation.

## (1) INTRODUCTION

If an annular ring is completely and uniformly wound with a magnetizing winding, the magnetic force at a given radius inside the ring is constant; accordingly, there is the same total flux through every cross-section of the ring. Moreover, there is no external field, if one neglects the second-order effect due to the fact that the winding is a helix and not a true current sheet. This simple distribution of flux makes the annular ring an ideal form for carrying out tests to measure the magnetic qualities of the material.

Although it is natural to think of a ring made of iron, there has so far been no need to specify the material of the ring. However, if the magnetizing winding is now bunched together, so that the ring is magnetized by a concentrated coil instead of a uniformly distributed winding, experiment shows that the behaviour of iron is completely different from that of non-magnetic material. This difference is shown up most clearly by the fact that the flux around the ring is substantially constant when an iron ring is used, but shows no sign of constancy when the ring is non-magnetic. The paper discusses this phenomenon from the viewpoint of magnetic theory and puts forward a theoretical analysis backed by experimental results.

## (2) THEORETICAL INVESTIGATION

## (2.1) Qualitative Analysis

It is very surprising that the flux distribution around an annular iron ring is substantially constant regardless of the disposition of the magnetizing winding. The problem raised by this constancy is often dismissed by the statement that the iron conducts flux because of its high permeability. This is undoubtedly correct, but scarcely deserves to rank as an explanation, if by explanation is meant that anyone who knew that iron has a high permeability should have foreseen the result. The treatment in the paper is based on the discussion of the problem given by Moullin,\* who shows that the surface polarity on the iron provides the mechanism by which the iron can maintain a substantially constant flux. Moullin dealt with the case of an iron ring and pointed out that it would be extremely difficult mathematically to analyse the flux distribution for such a ring, even if it were assumed that the material had constant permeability.

\* MOULLIN, E. B.: "Principles of Electromagnetism" (University Press, Oxford), Third edition, pp. 164-168.

Correspondence on Monographs is invited for consideration with a view to publication.

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meability. It was therefore decided to examine the problem of a long tube of material of constant permeability, for which mathematical solution was readily obtainable. It then became possible to check experimentally whether such a solution could give any help in solving the problem of an iron tube whose permeability was not constant.

Before proceeding with the mathematical analysis it may be helpful to examine the problem in general terms by means of a numerical example.

Consider an iron ring of mean diameter 10cm and let it be made from round bar of 1cm radius. If the ring is wound with a uniformly distributed magnetizing winding of 100 A/cm the magnetic force is equal to 4 oersteds anywhere on the mean circumference of the ring. If the magnetizing winding is then bunched together into a closely wound coil, the magnetic force in the absence of the iron will be  $20\pi$  oersteds at the centre of the coil and  $\pi/100$  oersteds at the mean diameter of the ring at a point diametrically opposite to the concentrated coil. From Fig. 1 it will be seen that the magnetic force due to the ma-

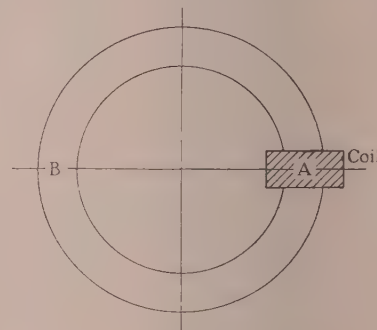


Fig. 1

metizing current is 2 000 times as strong at A as at B. Nevertheless, if the ring is made of iron, the flux density is substantially the same at A as at B, and, moreover, it has the value appropriate to a uniform magnetizing winding. Hence the iron has reduced the magnetic force at A from  $20\pi$  to 4 oersteds and increased that at B from  $\pi/100$  to 4 oersteds. How has this come about?

It is sometimes argued that this problem is fundamentally the same as that of current conduction from a battery through a wire. But this analogy is not a good one, because in current conduction the electric force is transmitted by an actual movement of charge, whereas there is certainly no movement of magnetic matter through iron. Moreover, in conductors there is a volume as well as a surface distribution of charge, but there is no such volume distribution of magnetism so long as the permeability is constant.

Another analogy that is often put forward is that the iron can be regarded as a chain of compass needles placed end to end. Such a picture is not in accord with the domain theory of ferromagnetism. It must be stressed that if there is to be a certain flux density in iron, there must also be a certain magnetic force acting at that point. If permanent magnetism (hysteresis)

neglected, the only way in which this magnetic force can arise by the appearance of surface polarity on the iron. It follows that the change in magnetic force produced by the iron ring must be due to surface polarity on the iron and that surface polarity must act even when the permeability of the iron becomes infinitely large. If there is to be surface polarity there must also be flux emerging from the iron, and the field can no longer be zero outside the iron, as was the case with the uniformly wound ring. Flux that leaves the iron is commonly called "leakage" flux, and in many applications this leakage flux is regarded as an imperfection in the design of the apparatus. Our discussion, however, has shown that the leakage flux is a manifestation of the mechanism of surface polarity by which the iron maintains a constant flux around the ring. (We shall call this the mutual flux, because it links both the cross-sections A and B in Fig. 1.) It would be quite accurate to state that without the leakage flux there would be hardly any mutual flux. If the permeability of the iron is very large, a small surface polarity will be sufficient to maintain a substantially constant flux around the iron. The ratio of leakage flux to mutual flux will therefore decrease with increase in permeability and will tend to zero when the permeability tends to infinity, but it is clear that the absolute value of the leakage flux will not tend to zero. Consider the action of the surface polarity with reference to Fig. 2, in which the leakage-flux lines are shown

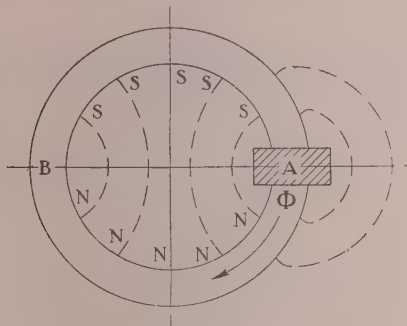


Fig. 2

diagrammatically. The surface polarity is north polar over the half-circumference ANB and south polar over the half-circumference ASB; the general direction of the magnetic force is from the lower half to the upper half. It can now be seen that the reduction in magnetic force at A is due to the fact that the surface polarity opposes the magnetic force due to the magnetizing coil. At B, on the other hand, the surface polarity aids the magnetic force due to the magnetizing coil and so the magnetic force at B is increased. Thus the surface polarity has the required tendency of making the magnetic force more uniform around the ring than it would otherwise have been.

## (2.2) Quantitative Analysis

In order to arrive at a simple mathematical solution of the problem which can be tested experimentally, it is desirable to impose two simplifying restrictions. The first is that the problem must be treated as a 2-dimensional one. This means that the anchor ring must be replaced by an infinitely long cylinder. Secondly, the permeability of the material must be taken as constant and the solution must therefore be regarded as only a general guide to the behaviour of iron cylinders. But there is no reason to expect that the discrepancy will not be very serious, and this is borne out by the experimental results. The solution

is indeed of considerable practical value, because it enables us to form an estimate of the magnitude of the leakage flux for iron at different permeabilities. This leakage flux will always be small and may well be of no consequence in transformers intended for use in pointer instruments. But transformers are required in certain types of calculating machine, and in such applications it may be desirable to estimate the order of the discrepancy between voltage ratio and turns ratio.

### (2.2.1) Magnetization by Single Conductor Inside the Cylinder.

Fig. 3 shows a cylindrical tube of internal radius  $b$  and external radius  $a$ . A current  $I$  flows in a round rod of radius

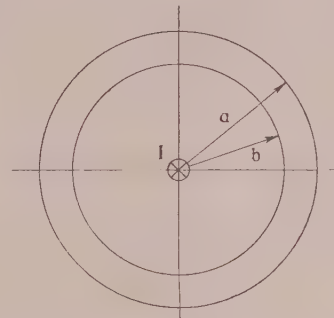


Fig. 3

smaller than  $b$  coaxial with the tube. Then  $H$  is constant at any radius around the iron tube, its magnitude varying between  $2I/b$  and  $2I/a$  between the inside and outside surfaces. The field outside the iron is the same as it would be if the iron were not there. It would not be proper to call this external flux a leakage flux, since it does not represent a leakage of flux out of the iron into the air. There is no surface polarity on the iron cylinder. The conductor carrying the return current is considered to be so far away that its field is insignificant. Such a condition can readily be achieved in practice. Consider now the altered condition illustrated in Fig. 4, in which the current is

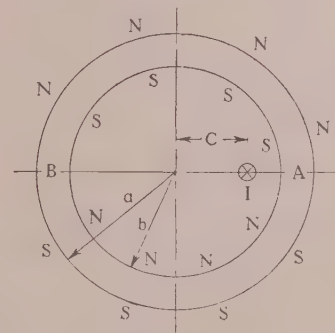


Fig. 4

no longer coaxial with the tube but is displaced from the centre through a distance  $c$ . It is shown in Section 6.1 that the flux passing the cross-section A is related to the flux at B by the expression

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 - \frac{c}{b}\right)}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 + \frac{c}{b}\right)} = k \text{ (say)} \quad (1)$$



so long as  $\mu \gg 1$ —a condition fulfilled by irons of widely differing magnetic quality. This equation enables the leakage flux to be calculated from a knowledge of the dimensions of the cylinder, the permeability of the iron and the eccentricity of the conductor. For small eccentricities

$$k \approx 1 + \frac{4\frac{c}{b}}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b}} \quad (2)$$

Thus the fractional leakage flux is directly proportional to the eccentricity and inversely proportional to the permeability. Another case of interest is the one in which the conductor lies close against the iron. If, for example,  $c/b = 95/100$  and  $a/b = 1.5$ , substitution in eqn. (1) shows that

$$k = 1 + \frac{4.95}{\mu} \log \frac{195}{5} = 1 + \frac{18.1}{\mu} \quad (3)$$

Hence the leakage flux in such a case will exceed 1% unless  $\mu$  exceeds about 2 000.

In Section 6.1 it is shown that the surface polarity is related to the radial magnetic force by the expression

$$2\pi\sigma = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} H_r$$

It is thus clear that for high permeabilities the surface polarity will rapidly tend to a constant finite value and will not disappear even when the permeability becomes infinite. This is a perfectly general statement about all surface polarity.

Consider now the internal surface polarity (see Fig. 4). It has been derived in Section 6.1 and is given by

$$\sigma_b = -\frac{Iy}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - yx^{2n}}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{c^n}{b^{n+1}} \sin n\theta \quad (4)$$

where  $y = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1}$  and  $x = \frac{b}{a}$

If  $\mu \gg 1$ ,  $y \rightarrow 1$

and  $\sigma_b = -\frac{I}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{b^{n+1}} \sin n\theta \quad (5)$

$= -1/2\pi \times$  (radial component of field due to the current  $I$  at radius  $b$  in the absence of iron). The potential function of this surface polarity is given by

$$V = -2I \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nr^n} \sin n\theta \quad (6)$$

for  $\mu \gg 1$  and the potential function of the magnetic field due to the current  $I$  for  $r > c$  is

$$V = 2I \left( \theta + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nr^n} \sin n\theta \right) \quad (7)$$

It is therefore seen that the leakage flux due to the internal surface polarity is finite, even if the permeability becomes infinitely large, and that it tends rapidly to a constant value which is independent of the external radius  $a$ . Consideration of the potential functions reveals that, for high permeabilities, the internal surface polarity entirely cancels the radial magnetic force of the current and modifies the tangential magnetic force so that it has the value it would have if the current were placed at the origin of co-ordinates and the iron tube were removed. This condition is that of perfect magnetic screening, and it is shown below that the external surface polarity is zero for such a

case, as would be expected. Consideration of the circuital law  $\oint H \cdot dl = 4\pi I$  shows that the tangential magnetic force can never be entirely "screened off," although the radial magnetic force is reduced to zero.

The surface polarity at radius  $a$ , i.e. on the outer surface of the tube, is derived in Section 6.1 and is shown to be

$$\sigma_a = \frac{2Iy}{\pi(\mu + 1)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} \sin n\theta$$

if  $\mu \gg 1$ ,  $y \rightarrow 1$

and  $\sigma_a \approx \frac{2I}{\pi\mu} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} \sin n\theta$

Thus, since  $x < 1$ ,

$$\sigma_a < \frac{2I}{\pi\mu} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} \sin n\theta$$

Therefore  $\sigma_a$  is less than the product of  $1/\pi\mu$  and the radial component of field due to current  $I$  at radius  $a$ .

It is also seen that the polarity  $\sigma_a$  will tend to zero as  $\mu$  is increased. This is as expected and should be compared with the constant value of  $\sigma_b$  at large values of  $\mu$ . We have shown therefore, that the leakage flux is predominantly caused by the internal surface polarity.

#### (2.2.2) Magnetization by Single Conductor Outside the Iron Tube.

The surface polarity for the case of magnetization shown in Fig. 5 is derived in Section 6.2 and is shown to be  $\sigma_b$  on the inside of the tube, where

$$\sigma_b = \frac{2Iy}{\pi(\mu + 1)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{b^{n-1}}{a^n} \sin n\theta$$

If  $\mu \gg 1$ ,  $y \rightarrow 1$

and  $\sigma_b = \frac{2I}{\pi\mu} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \frac{b^{n-1}}{a^n} \sin n\theta$

and hence  $\sigma_b < \frac{2I}{\pi\mu} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b^{n-1}}{a^n} \sin n\theta$

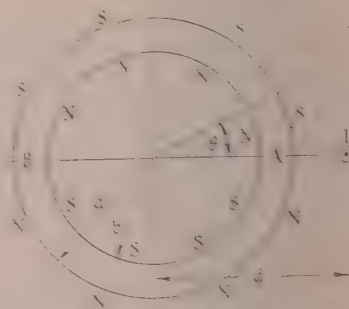


Fig. 5

i.e.  $\sigma_b$  is less than the product of  $1/\pi\mu$  and the radial component of field at radius  $b$  in the absence of iron. It is therefore seen that the internal polarity will tend to zero as  $\mu$  is increased. The external polarity is given by

$$\sigma_a = \frac{Iy}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - yx^{2n}}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{a^{n-1}}{b^n} \sin n\theta$$

and if  $\mu \gg 1$

$$\sigma_a = \frac{I}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a^{n-1}}{d^n} \sin n\theta \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (15)$$

$= 1/2\pi \times$  (radial component of field at radius  $a$  in the absence of iron).

The external polarity therefore has a constant finite value, even when the permeability becomes infinite. Consideration of the potential functions reveals that under this condition the external polarity completely cancels the field of the current at any radius  $r < a$ . This condition is thus one of perfect magnetic screening, and it is of interest that there will be neither radial nor tangential field inside the tube. It was pointed out in Section 2.2.1 that the tangential field of an internal current cannot be screened off by surrounding the current with an iron tube.

Because there exists external surface polarity on the tube even when the permeability tends to infinity, there will be "leakage" flux emerging from the iron. The extreme variation of "mutual" flux crossing the wall of the tube is derived in Section 6.2 and is given by:

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\log 1 - \frac{a}{d}}{\log 1 + \frac{a}{d}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (16)$$

when  $\mu > 1$ .

It is rather surprising that, not only the fractional leakage flux, but the mutual flux itself is independent of both the permeability and the thickness of the tube. The flux carried by the wall of the tube is, in fact, exactly twice the flux that would have crossed the radius  $a$  if the tube had been removed. It might be objected that the absence of magnetic force inside the tube (i.e.  $r < a$ ) should also lead to an absence of flux carried by the tube. This is a very sound objection and is entirely in accord with the discussion of Section 2.1. The reason for this apparent contradiction is that by letting  $\mu$  tend to infinity we are really no longer treating this as a problem in magnetism. Our discussion would apply rigorously to the problem of a perfectly conducting cylinder in an electric field. Such a cylinder could be treated as the limiting case of a dielectric cylinder when the permittivity tended to infinity. But there is no process in magnetism analogous to conduction in electricity, and the idea of magnetic flux density without magnetic force must be rejected.

So long as our minds are clear on this matter, however, it is useful to examine the limiting case of infinite permeability, which although physically impossible, simplifies the mathematics and gives the mutual and leakage fluxes to a high degree of approximation.

Consider now a conductor close to the outside wall of the tube. If  $a/d = 95/100$

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\log \frac{5}{100}}{\log \frac{195}{100}} = -4.5$$

The reason for the minus sign is clear when it is considered that the flux will be directed in opposite senses at A and B. It is, in fact, undesirable to speak here of "mutual" or "leakage" flux, because the leakage flux is sufficiently large to reverse the mutual flux at opposite ends of a diameter of the tube. It should be kept in mind that these fluxes which are associated with magnetization by an external current are considerably less than those associated with an internal current. The ratio between them is of the order of the permeability.

### (2.2.3) Tube magnetized by Equal and Opposite Currents, One Inside and One Outside.

It is now desirable to superpose the results of the last two Sections in order to obtain the case of an iron tube magnetized by a single loop of current.

Let the equal and opposite currents be situated as shown in Fig. 6. The internal current causes more flux to cross section A

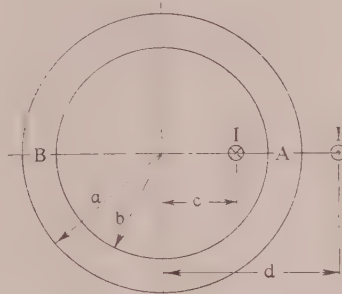


Fig. 6

than section B. The external current causes at A a flux directed in the same sense as the flux there due to the internal current. At B, however, the flux due to the external current opposes the flux due to the internal current. It is therefore clear that the provision of the "return conductor" outside the tube accentuates the variation of flux around the tube; in other words, it increases the leakage flux.

Combining the results obtained in Section 6.1 and 6.2 we have

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = \mu\mu_0 \log \frac{a}{b} + 2\mu_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nb^n} \cos n\theta + 2\mu_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{nd^n} \cos n\theta \quad . \quad (17)$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 - \frac{c}{b}\right) - 2 \log \left(1 - \frac{a}{d}\right)}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 + \frac{c}{b}\right) - 2 \log \left(1 + \frac{a}{d}\right)} \quad . \quad (18)$$

If there is only slight eccentricity of the internal conductor and if the return conductor is at a great distance from the tube, we have  $c/b \ll 1$  and  $a/d \ll 1$ .

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} \approx 1 + \frac{4 \left( \frac{c}{b} + \frac{a}{d} \right)}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b}} \quad . \quad . \quad . \quad (19)$$

The case of greatest interest arises when both wires are almost at the surfaces of the tube.

If we take  $c/b = a/d = 95/100$

$$\text{then} \quad \frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} + 12}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2.68}$$

and if

$$a/b = 3/2$$

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu + 29.7}{\mu - 6.62} \approx 1 + \frac{36.3}{\mu}$$



Hence the leakage flux will exceed 1% unless  $\mu$  exceeds 3 600. Fig. 7 shows a family of curves derived on the basis of  $a/b = 3/2$  for varying eccentricities ( $c/b = a/d$ ).

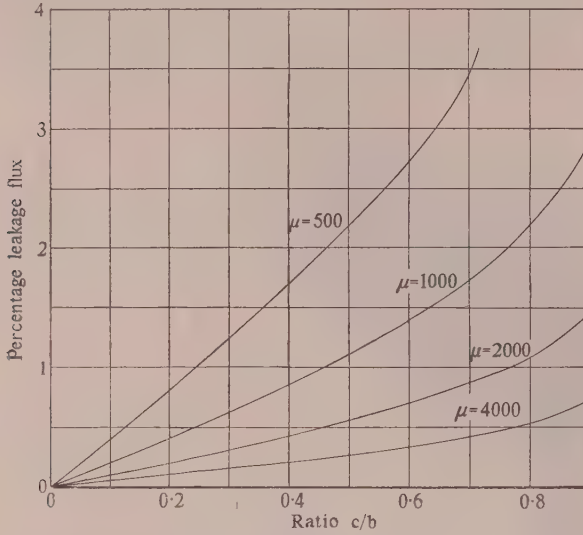


Fig. 7.—Theoretical leakage flux.

#### (2.2.4) Examination of the Tangential Magnetic Force Inside the Tube Magnetized by a Single Loop of Current.

It has already been pointed out that it is not helpful to dismiss the problem of flux distribution in iron by the statement that iron is a good conductor of flux, since, in fact, this so-called process of conduction is radically different from that of conduction of electric currents. We have stressed that for any flux density  $B$  to arise anywhere in space, whether inside a material or outside, it is necessary that there should be the requisite magnetic force  $H$  at that point. This magnetic force can be calculated by the use of the inverse-square law between point magnetic poles, and this law is independent of the medium in which or through which the magnetic force acts. The behaviour of iron as a good conductor of flux, even when it is magnetized by an unsymmetrical magnetizing winding, is therefore entirely attributable to its polarizability, i.e. to the fact that pole strength will be induced on its surface when it is placed in a magnetic field.

So far we have directed attention to this surface polarity and to the flux distribution around the tube. This flux distribution is of great interest, because it provides a ready means of examining experimentally whether the theoretical results apply to actual iron tubes. But in this Section it is proposed to examine the variation of magnetic force around the tube, so as to gain a closer insight into the mechanism by which the flux density remains substantially constant around the tube, even when this is magnetized by a single loop of current.

At any radius  $r$  in the wall of the tube ( $b < r < a$ ) the tangential force due to the internal current and the polarities induced by it is given in Section 6.1 as

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \left( \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{y r^{n-1}}{a^{2n}} \right) c^n \cos n\theta. \quad (20)$$

Similarly, the tangential force due to the external current, and the polarities induced by it, are given in Section 6.2 as

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \left( r^{n-1} + y \frac{b^{2n}}{r^{n+1}} \right) \frac{1}{d^n} \cos n\theta. \quad (21)$$

Hence the total tangential force is given by

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{y b^{2n}}{d^n r^{n+1}} + \frac{y r^{n-1} c^n}{a^{2n}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \cos n\theta. \quad (22)$$

If  $\mu \gg 1$

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \left[ \left( c^n + \frac{b^{2n}}{d^n} \right) \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} + \left( \frac{c^n}{a^{2n}} + \frac{1}{d^n} \right) r^{n-1} \right] \cos n\theta. \quad (23)$$

$$= \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \cos n\theta. \quad (24)$$

if  $c/b = a/d$ .

Now  $-H_\theta/2I = 1/r$  would be the value of  $H_\theta$  if the tube were magnetized by a uniform current sheet of strength  $I$ . Hence any variation of  $H_\theta$  caused by the concentration of the magnetizing winding into a single coil is given by the term

$$\frac{2}{\mu} \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \cos n\theta$$

and this is less than

$$\frac{2}{\mu} \sum_1^\infty \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \cos n\theta$$

i.e. less than

$$\frac{2}{\mu} \times \text{radial component of field due to single current loop in the absence of the tube.}$$

Compare this now with the field of the single current loop in the absence of the tube:

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \sum_1^\infty \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} \cos n\theta + \sum_1^\infty \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \cos n\theta. \quad (25)$$

This comparison shows clearly that the variation of tangential magnetic force has been reduced in the ratio which is more than  $1 : \mu/2$ . This reduction must be due to the fact that the magnetic force arising from the surface polarity opposes that from the current where the latter is strong, because of its proximity to the current loop, and aids it where it is weak.

The tangential magnetic force due to the induced polarities is given by

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \left[ \frac{2y}{\mu + 1} \frac{c^n r^{n-1}}{a^{2n}} - y(1 - yx^{2n}) \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} \right. \\ \left. + y(1 - yx^{2n}) \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} + \frac{2y}{\mu + 1} \frac{b^{2n}}{d^n r^{n+1}} \right] \cos n\theta. \quad (26)$$

If  $c/b = a/d$  and  $\mu \gg 1$ ,

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \sum_1^\infty \frac{1}{1 - x^{2n}} \left[ \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \left( \frac{2}{\mu} x^n - 1 + x^{2n} \right) - \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} \left( 1 - x^{2n} - \frac{2}{\mu} x^n \right) \right] \cos n\theta$$

$$= \sum_1^\infty \left[ \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \left( \frac{2}{\mu} \frac{x^n}{1 - x^{2n}} - 1 \right) + \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} \left( \frac{2}{\mu} \frac{x^n}{1 - x^{2n}} - 1 \right) \right] \cos n\theta. \quad (27)$$

ence the action of the surface polarity is to reduce  $H_\theta$  at  $\theta = 0$  or  $\pi$

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \sum_1^\infty \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \quad (28)$$

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu} \sum_1^\infty \frac{x^n}{1-x^{2n}} \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \right) \quad (29)$$

e. from 
$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{c}{r(r-c)} + \frac{1}{d-r} \quad (30)$$

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu} \left[ \frac{cx}{r(r-cx)} + \frac{x}{d-rx} \right] \quad (31)$$

o long as  $x^{2n} \rightarrow 0$ .

at  $\theta = \pi$  the tangential force is increased from

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{c}{r(r+c)} - \frac{1}{d+r} \quad (32)$$

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{2}{\mu} \frac{cx}{r(r+cx)} + \frac{x}{d+rx} \quad (33)$$

f we consider  $H_\theta$  at the mean radius  $r = (c+d)/2$  and if  $b/a = 2/3$  and  $c/b = a/d = 0.95$ , we have an extreme variation of  $H_\theta/2I$ , in the absence of the tube, from

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{8}{r} \text{ to } -\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{0.127}{r}$$

When the tube is placed in position this variation is reduced and the relevant values are

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} \left( 1 + \frac{4.28}{\mu} \right) \text{ and } -\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} \left( 1 - \frac{1.36}{\mu} \right)$$

f  $\mu = 2000$  the effect of the surface polarity on the tube is to reduce the range of variation of  $H_\theta$  from approximately 1 : 63 to approximately 1 : 1.00282. Thus it comes about that the flux density is substantially constant around the tube.

### (3) EXPERIMENTAL INVESTIGATION

#### (3.1) Apparatus

The iron tubes were built up from silicon-iron stampings, tightly insulated on one side, the outside and inside diameters being 11.75 and 9.2 cm respectively. Three different lengths of tube were used, in order to obtain some indication of the effect of flux leakage at the ends, the approximate lengths being 35, 17.5 and 8.75 cm. The tubes were mounted with their axes horizontal on a slide which could be moved transversely to a long copper rod of diameter 0.475 cm, which carried the 50 c/s magnetizing current. The eccentricity of the conductor was varied by moving the iron tube. Two search coils of 44-gauge i.s.c. copper wire were wound on each of the tubes at opposite ends of a diameter, and the ends of these coils were brought out to terminals so that the coils could be connected in series or in opposition. The numbers of turns on the search coils were 50, 100 and 200 respectively for the three tubes. The output from these coils was connected to an integrating circuit consisting of a 39  $\mu$ F condenser in series with a 4920-ohm resistor. The condenser terminals were connected to a cathode-ray oscillograph.

#### (3.2) Method of Measurement

The "return" part of the magnetizing winding was sufficiently far from the iron tubes not to affect the measurements, and the

magnetization could thus be attributed entirely to the long straight conductor. External inductance was inserted into the magnetizing circuit so as to keep the magnetizing current close to a pure sine wave. Fig. 8(a) shows a typical current trace obtained on the cathode-ray oscillograph for a current of 100 amp.

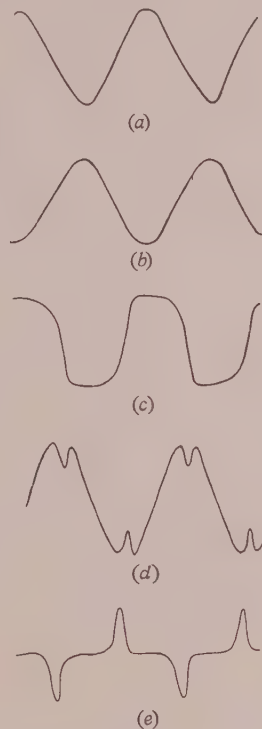


Fig. 8.—Waveforms.

- (a) Current.
- (b) Leakage flux.
- (c) Mutual flux.
- (d) "Leakage" voltage.
- (e) "Mutual" voltage.

In order to obtain the leakage-flux curve, the search coils were connected in opposition, and Fig. 8(b) shows a typical trace. Fig. 8(c) shows the mutual-flux curve, obtained with the search coils in series. Figs. 8(d) and 8(e) were obtained by connecting the search coils straight to the oscillograph, and omitting the integrating circuit. They show, therefore, the "leakage" and the "mutual" voltage waves respectively.

In order to try to eliminate the end-leakage effects of the tubes it was decided to use "guard rings," i.e. to pack the ends with additional stampings. Tests were made on the two shorter tubes packed like this at one end only and at both ends. A considerable reduction in leakage flux was observed, but difficulties were encountered because the leakage flux was exceedingly sensitive to slight differences in the packing of the ends. Owing to the bulge of the search coils this packing could not be made perfect, and considerably varying readings could be obtained by altering the axial pressure to which the tubes were subjected.

In addition to the a.c. measurements, two d.c. magnetic reversal curves were obtained by the use of a fluxmeter. One curve was obtained in the usual way by winding a specimen of approximately square cross-section with a uniformly distributed magnetizing winding and search coil. The other curve was obtained by using the 8.75 cm tube with its search coils and reversing a direct current in the long copper conductor. These



two methods gave approximately identical results, and any small differences were no doubt due to slight variations in the magnetic characteristics of the different stampings.

### (3.3) Discussion of Results

It has been shown in Section 2.2 that the surface polarity, and therefore the leakage flux, is approximately independent of  $\mu$  so long as  $\mu \gg 1$ . This is borne out by Fig. 8(b), where it is seen that the leakage-flux wave has exactly the shape of the magnetizing-current wave. The effect of supplying a magnetizing-current wave containing harmonics was tried, and in every case the leakage-flux wave contained the same harmonics. Figs. 8(c) and 8(e) show that there was considerable saturation in the iron. It is, of course, to be expected that the leakage flux will show hardly any signs of saturation, even when the iron is very highly saturated, because the path of the leakage flux is predominantly in air. However, it is not until one considers the surface polarity that the mechanism by which this is achieved becomes at all clear.

Since the leakage-flux wave is sinusoidal it was possible to calibrate the oscillograph to a scale of flux density, and this made it possible to obtain the maximum flux density of the total flux wave. Hence the fractional leakage flux could be obtained for various eccentricities of the magnetizing conductor. The maximum total flux density afforded a further check on the d.c. reversal curve and reasonable agreement was found.

Fig. 9 shows a typical family of curves of fractional leakage flux obtained with the 35cm tube at different magnetizing currents and eccentricities of the conductor carrying this current. In order to give a ready comparison with the theoretical curves shown in Fig. 7, the theoretical curve has been included on Fig. 9; it is plotted as  $100\mu(k-1)$ , where

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 - \frac{c}{b}\right)}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left(1 + \frac{c}{b}\right)} = k \text{ (say)} \quad (1)$$

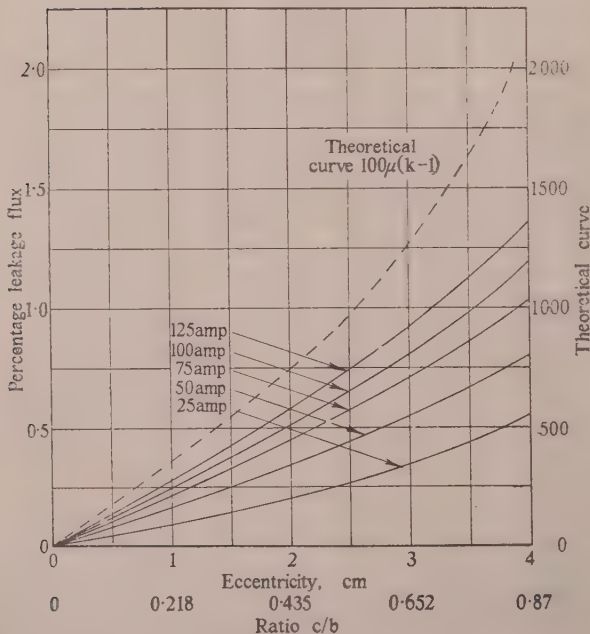


Fig. 9.—Percentage leakage flux in 35cm tube.

It is clear from Fig. 9 that the theoretical curve is of the same shape as the experimental curves. In order to test the closeness of fit, Fig. 10 has been plotted. A curve at low saturation

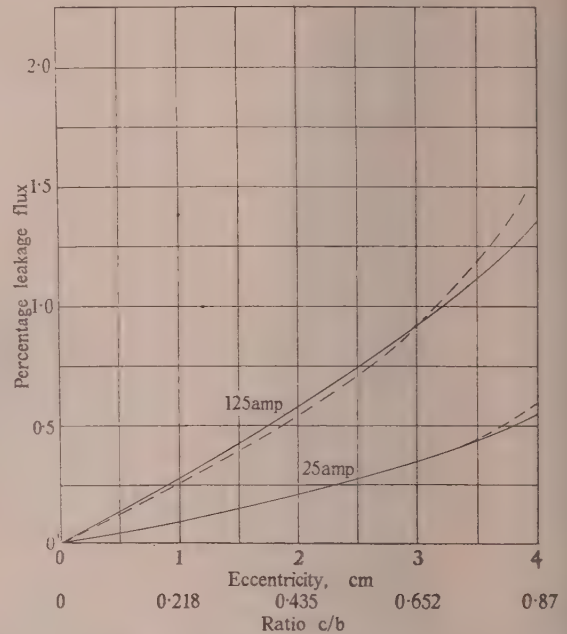


Fig. 10.—Comparison of shape of theoretical and experimental leakage-flux curves.

(25amp magnetizing current) and another at high saturation (125amp magnetizing current) have been chosen. The broken curves are the theoretical ones, which have been derived by assuming a constant permeability such that the experimental and theoretical curves coincide at an eccentricity of 3cm. At such an eccentricity  $100\mu(k-1) = 815 \log 1.652/0.348 = 1270$ . This gives an "equivalent  $\mu$ " of 3640 for the 25amp curve and 1380 for the 125amp curve. It can be seen that the chief difference between the theoretical and experimental curves is the greater steepness of the former. This is not surprising when it is realized that the theoretical curve is calculated for a tube of infinite length. The end effect is bound to increase the leakage of the relatively short tubes used in the experiments, and is likely to be most marked when the iron is highly saturated and when the eccentricity of the magnetizing conductor is great.

Results similar to those shown in Fig. 9 were obtained with the tubes 17.5 and 8.75cm long, both when these tubes were used by themselves and when they were packed with additional stampings as described in Section 3.2. Equivalent permeabilities were again obtained by equating the theoretical and experimental leakage fluxes at an eccentricity of 3cm. These equivalent permeabilities are plotted against magnetic force in Fig. 11, and on this diagram a similar curve of  $\mu$  against  $H$  was plotted as obtained from a d.c. magnetic reversal curve. Fig. 11 shows how the leakage flux is considerably reduced by increasing the length of the tube and by packing the ends.

Table 1 gives the ratio between the equivalent permeability and the permeability determined from d.c. test for the 8.75 and 17.5cm tubes when these are packed with additional stamping at both ends.

The equivalent permeability is about 20% less than the actual permeability, and the theoretical treatment is thus shown to be substantially applicable to iron tubes. A part at least of the 20%

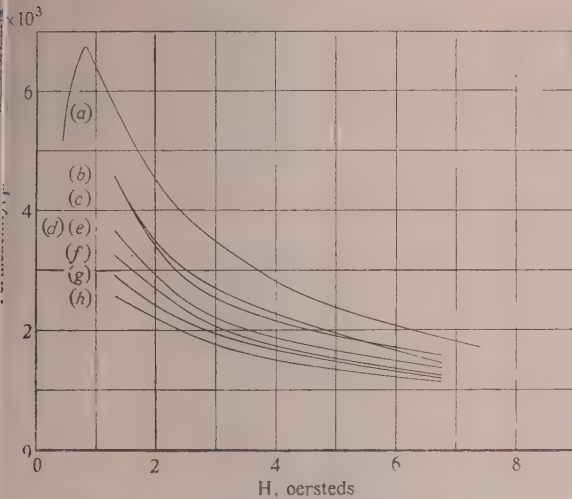


Fig. 11.—Comparison of equivalent permeabilities.

- (a) D.C. reversal curve.  
 (b) 8.75 cm specimen packed both sides.  
 (c) 17.5 cm specimen packed both sides.  
 (d) 35 cm specimen.  
 (e) 17.5 cm specimen packed one side.  
 (f) 8.75 cm specimen packed one side.  
 (g) 17.5 cm specimen.  
 (h) 8.75 cm specimen.

Table 1

H	Equivalent $\mu$ /Actual $\mu$	
	8.75 cm tube	17.5 cm tube
oersteds		
1.35	0.80	0.79
2.7	0.76	0.71
4.05	0.80	0.74
5.4	0.81	0.84
6.75	0.77	0.80

discrepancy can be accounted for when it is understood that there will be some end leakage, even when the tubes have their ends packed, because this packing cannot be made perfect (see Section 3.2). A further slight reduction in the equivalent permeability will be due to eddy currents, and there will also be some effect from the permanent magnetism (hysteresis) of the iron. The theoretical treatment neglects hysteresis.

A test was carried out on the 35 cm tube when this was magnetized by an external conductor as discussed in Section 2.2.2. The theoretical flux ratio is

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\log 1 - \frac{a}{d}}{\log 1 + \frac{a}{d}} \quad (16)$$

In this case  $a/d$  was 0.96 when the conductor was touching the tube. Hence  $\Phi_A/\Phi_B = -4.8$  theoretically, and the average experimental value was found to be  $-4.3$ . This was largely independent of saturation.

#### (4) CONCLUSION

It has been shown that surface polarity (or leakage flux) gives to iron its remarkable property of being able to maintain a substantially constant total flux around an iron circuit which is

magnetized by a concentrated coil. Good experimental agreement is obtained with the theoretical treatment, even when the apparently drastic assumption of constant permeability in the iron has been made. It therefore becomes possible to estimate the magnitude of the leakage flux in any particular set of iron ring stampings. Furthermore, it becomes possible to estimate the order of the flux leakage for more complicated iron circuits.

#### (5) ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author gratefully acknowledges the guidance and encouragement given to him by Professor E. B. Moullin.

#### (6) APPENDIX

(6.1) To calculate the surface distribution of polarity induced on a tube of material of constant permeability by a current flowing parallel to the axis of the tube and at a distance  $c$  from the axis, where  $c$  is smaller than the internal radius of the tube.

We require first the field of the current in the absence of the tube. This is given by the potential function

$$V = 2I \left( \theta + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nr^n} \sin n\theta \right) \quad (7)$$

$[r > c]^*$

Let the induced surface polarity be denoted by  $\sigma_a$  on the outside surface of the tube and  $\sigma_b$  on the inside surface. Consideration will show that  $\sigma_a$  will be positive (north polarity) over the top half of the tube and negative (south polarity) over the bottom half; these conditions will be reversed for  $\sigma_b$ . Hence  $\sigma_a$  and  $\sigma_b$  can be expressed by the Fourier series

$$\sigma_a = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma_{an} \sin n\theta \quad (34)$$

and

$$\sigma_b = - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma_{bn} \sin n\theta \quad (35)$$

Also the potential function of  $\sigma_a$  for  $r < a$  will be

$$V = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2\pi r^n}{na^{n-1}} \sigma_{an} \sin n\theta \quad (36)$$

and the potential function of  $\sigma_b$  for  $r > b$  will be

$$V = - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{nr^n} \sigma_{bn} \sin n\theta \quad (37)$$

Consider now the radial field at the surface of a cylindrical shell of polarity.

Let the circle shown in Fig. 12 represent the cross-section of such a cylindrical shell, which carries a completely general distribution of polarity  $\sigma = f(\theta)$ . It is required to find the force at a typical point P on the circumference of the shell due to this polarity. Now a filament situated at Q produces at P a force in

\* In order to shorten the paper, no detailed derivation of the potential functions has been given. It will be clear that these potentials must satisfy Laplace's equation, which is merely a mathematical statement following from a consideration of the inverse-square law. Laplace's equation in cylindrical co-ordinates is

$$\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \theta^2} = 0$$

and the solution will therefore be of the form

$$V = r^n (A \cos n\theta + B \sin n\theta) + \frac{1}{r^n} (C \cos n\theta + D \sin n\theta).$$

All this work is based on Clerk Maxwell, and the particular cases discussed in the paper are fully dealt with by Moullin:

CLERK MAXWELL, J.: "Electricity and Magnetism" (Clarendon Press, Oxford), Part IV, Chapter I.

MOULLIN, E. B.: "Principles of Electromagnetism" (University Press, Oxford), Third edition, pp. 197 and 403.



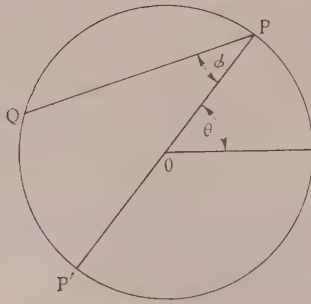


Fig. 12.—Shell of polarity.

the direction  $QP$  of magnitude  $\delta H = 2R\delta\theta f(\theta)/QP$ . The radial component of this force is

$$\delta H_r = \frac{2R\delta\theta f(\theta)}{QP} \cos \phi = \frac{2R\delta\theta f(\theta)}{QP} \frac{QP}{PP'} = \delta\theta f(\theta) \quad (38)$$

Hence the contribution of radial force made by the filament at  $Q$  is independent of the position of  $Q$  and depends only on the magnitude of the polarity at that point. Hence the total radial force at  $P$  is given by

$$H_r = \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \sigma d\theta \quad (39)$$

If the polarity is induced there will be equal amounts of positive and negative polarity on the shell, and hence the radial force at any point in the shell will be zero. At a point very close to the shell and just outside it, the radial force will depend on the local polarity and will be the same as for an infinite plane, i.e.  $2\pi\sigma$ . Just inside the shell the radial force will be  $-2\pi\sigma$ . Having established this property of cylinders, we can determine the surface polarity on the cylindrical tube. By continuity of radial force at radius  $a$

$$H_r + 2\pi\sigma_a = \mu(H_r - 2\pi\sigma_a)$$

Therefore

$$2\pi\sigma_a = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu + 1} H_r = yH_r \text{ (say)} \quad (40)$$

where  $H_r$  is the radial force at  $r = a$  due to the current  $I$  and the surface polarity  $\sigma_b$ .

Hence

$$H_r = -\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[ 2I \left( \theta + \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nr^n} \sin n\theta \right) - \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{nr^n} \sigma_{bn} \sin n\theta \right]$$

at  $r = a$ . (41)

$$\text{Therefore} \quad \frac{2\pi\sigma_{an}}{y} = 2I \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} - \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{a^{n+1}} \sigma_{bn} \quad (42)$$

If  $b/a = x$  (say)

$$2\pi\sigma_{an} = 2Iy \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} - 2\pi yx^{n+1} \sigma_{bn} \quad (43)$$

$$\text{Similarly} \quad 2\pi\sigma_{bn} = 2Iy \frac{c^n}{b^{n+1}} - 2\pi yx^{n-1} \sigma_{an} \quad (44)$$

$$\text{Hence} \quad \sigma_{an} = \frac{2Iy}{\pi(\mu + 1)} \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \frac{c^n}{a^{n+1}} \quad (45)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \sigma_{bn} = \frac{Iy}{\pi} \frac{1 - yx^{2n}}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \frac{c^n}{b^{n+1}} \quad (46)$$

(6.2) To calculate the fractional leakage flux between the cross-sections  $A$  and  $B$  of the tube, as indicated in Fig. 4.

The tangential magnetic force in the tube is due to the current and the induced surface polarities  $\sigma_a$  and  $\sigma_b$ . Its value can be derived from the potential functions by the relationship

$$H_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta}$$

Therefore

$$H_\theta = -\frac{2I}{r} \left( 1 + \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{r^n} \cos n\theta \right) - \frac{1}{r} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi r^n}{a^{n-1}} \sigma_{an} \cos n\theta + \frac{1}{r} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{r^n} \sigma_{bn} \cos n\theta \quad (47)$$

Therefore

$$-\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{1}{r} + \sum_1^{\infty} \cos n\theta \left( \frac{c^n}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{2y}{\mu + 1} \frac{c^n r^{n-1}}{a^{2n}} \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} - y \frac{c^n}{r^{n-1}} \frac{1 - yx^{2n}}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \right) = \frac{1}{r} + \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - y^2 x^{2n}} \left( \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} + \frac{yr^{n-1}}{a^{2n}} \right) c^n \cos n\theta \quad (48)$$

Thus

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = \frac{-\int_b^a \mu \mu_0 H_\theta dr}{2I} = \mu \mu_0 \log \frac{a}{b} + \frac{2\mu \mu_0}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1 - x^n}{1 - yx^n} \frac{c^n}{nb^n} \cos n\theta \quad (49)$$

If  $\mu \gg 1$

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = \mu \mu_0 \log \frac{a}{b} + 2\mu_0 \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{c^n}{nb^n} \cos n\theta = \mu \mu_0 \log \frac{a}{b} - \mu_0 \log \left( 1 - 2 \frac{c}{b} \cos \theta + \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right) \quad (50)$$

$$\text{Hence} \quad \frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left( 1 - \frac{c}{b} \right)}{\mu \log \frac{a}{b} - 2 \log \left( 1 + \frac{c}{b} \right)}$$

(6.3) To calculate the surface distribution of polarity induced on a tube of material of constant permeability  $\mu$  by a current flowing parallel to the axis of the tube and at a distance  $c$  from the axis, where  $c$  is larger than the external radius of the tube.

Let the external and internal induced polarities be denoted before by

$$\sigma_a = \sum_1^{\infty} \sigma_{an} \sin n\theta \quad (51)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \sigma_b = -\sum_1^{\infty} \sigma_{bn} \sin n\theta \quad (52)$$

hence their potential functions will be

$$V = \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi r^n}{na^{n-1}} \sigma_{an} \sin n\theta \quad (53)$$

when  $r < a$  and

$$V = -\sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{nr^n} \sigma_{bn} \sin n\theta \quad (54)$$

when  $r > b$ .

the potential function of the current  $I$  will be

$$V = -2I \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{nd^n} \sin n\theta \quad (50)$$

where  $r < d$ .

By continuity of radial force at radius  $a$  and  $b$ ,

$$2\pi\sigma_{an} = 2Iy \frac{a^{n-1}}{d^n} - 2\pi y x^{n+1} \sigma_{bn} \quad (51)$$

$$2\pi\sigma_{bn} = 2Iy \frac{b^{n-1}}{d^n} - 2\pi y x^{n-1} \sigma_{an} \quad (52)$$

hence

$$\sigma_a = \frac{Iy}{\pi} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1 - yx^{2n}}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{a^{n-1}}{d^n} \sin n\theta \quad (14)$$

$$\sigma_b = \frac{2Iy}{\pi(\mu + 1)} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{b^{n-1}}{d^n} \sin n\theta \quad (11)$$

(6.4) To calculate the fractional leakage flux between the cross-sections  $A$  and  $B$  of the tube, as indicated in Fig. 5.

Therefore,

$$H_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta}$$

Therefore

$$H_\theta = 2I \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{r^{n-1}}{d^n} \cos n\theta - \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi r^{n-1}}{a^{n-1}} \sigma_{an} \cos n\theta + \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{2\pi b^{n+1}}{r^{n+1}} \sigma_{bn} \cos n\theta \quad (53)$$

Therefore

$$\frac{H_\theta}{2I} = \frac{2}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{d^n(1 - y^2x^{2n})} \left( r^{n-1} + y \frac{b^{2n}}{r^{n+1}} \right) \cos n\theta \quad (21)$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = \int_b^a B_\theta dr = \frac{2\mu\mu_0}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1}{nd^n(1 - y^2x^{2n})} \left[ r^n - y \frac{b^{2n}}{r^n} \right]_b^a \cos n\theta \quad (54)$$

$$= \frac{2\mu\mu_0}{\mu + 1} \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1 - yx^{2n} - \frac{2}{\mu + 1} x^n}{1 - y^2x^{2n}} \frac{a^n}{nd^n} \cos n\theta \quad (55)$$

$$\simeq 2\mu_0 \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{1 - x^{2n} - \frac{2}{\mu} x^n}{1 - x^{2n}} \frac{a^n}{nd^n} \cos n\theta \quad (56)$$

when  $\mu \gg 1$

$$\simeq 2\mu_0 \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{nd^n} \cos n\theta \quad (57)$$

when  $\mu \rightarrow \infty$

At  $\theta = 0$ , with this approximation,

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = 2\mu_0 \sum_1^{\infty} \frac{a^n}{nd^n} = 2\mu_0 \left( \frac{a}{d} + \frac{a^2}{2d^2} + \dots \right) \quad (58)$$

$$= -2\mu_0 \log \left( 1 - \frac{a}{d} \right) \quad (59)$$

and at  $\theta = \pi$

$$\frac{\Phi}{2I} = -2\mu_0 \log \left( 1 + \frac{a}{d} \right) \quad (60)$$

Hence

$$\frac{\Phi_A}{\Phi_B} = \frac{\log 1 - \frac{a}{d}}{\log 1 + \frac{a}{d}} \quad (16)$$



## DISCUSSION ON "THE REFLECTION OF ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES FROM A ROUGH SURFACE"\*

Mr. Lee M. Spetner (*communicated*): I question the use of eqn. (27) to represent the conditional probability of finding a surface elevation of  $Z$  located at a distance  $r$  from a point where the surface height is known to be  $Z_0$ . Perhaps the author actually intended to assume a two-dimensional normal distribution for the two heights,  $Z$  and  $Z_0$ , in which case eqn. (27) should, instead, be

$$P(Z, Z_0, r) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{(2\pi)[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{[Z - Z_0 \exp(-r^2/a^2)]^2}{2\sigma^2[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]}\right\}$$

This affects the expressions in eqns. (33) and (34) and eqn. (35) should become

$$\langle FF^* \rangle = \exp\left\{-\frac{2\pi i}{\lambda}[s(\sin\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi) + t \sin\theta \sin\phi]\right\} \times \left\{\exp - \frac{4\pi^2\sigma^2}{\lambda^2}(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2[1 - \exp(-r^2/a^2)] - \exp\left[-\frac{4\pi^2\sigma^2}{\lambda^2}(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2\right]\right\}$$

Using the approximation of eqn. (36), then, gives us for eqn. (37)

$$\langle FF^* \rangle = \exp\left\{-\frac{4\pi^2\sigma^2 r^2}{\lambda^2 a^2}(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2 - \frac{2\pi i}{\lambda}[s(\sin\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi) + t \sin\theta \sin\phi]\right\}$$

changing the exponent in the incoherent power by a factor of 2, giving for eqn. (38)

$$\langle |\mathcal{E} - \langle \mathcal{E} \rangle|^2 \rangle = \frac{e^2}{4\lambda^2 r^2} \frac{\lambda^2 a^2}{4\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left[-\frac{a^2}{4\sigma^2} \frac{(\sin\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi)^2 + \sin^2\theta \sin^2\phi}{(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2}\right]$$

where, incidentally, the term  $(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2$  preceding the exponential in eqn. (38) actually is cancelled out in the integration over  $s$  and  $t$ .

Mr. H. Davies (*in reply*): The probability distribution of eqn. (27) is not satisfactory, as has been pointed out by Mr. Spetner, because it is not symmetrical in the two variables  $z$

and  $z_0$ . We can use a similar distribution which does have property, obtained by assuming a two-dimensional normal distribution including a correlation term. Keeping the same auto-correlation function, eqn. (27) will now read:

$$P(z, z_0, r) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{[z - z_0 \exp(-r^2/a^2)]^2}{2\sigma^2[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]}\right\}$$

the bivariate distribution now being

$$\phi(z, z_0, r) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\left\{-\frac{z^2 + z_0^2 - 2zz_0 \exp(-r^2/a^2)}{2\sigma^2[1 - \exp(-2r^2/a^2)]}\right\}$$

This affects eqns. (33) and (34) slightly, and eqn. (35) should now read

$$\langle FF^* \rangle = \exp\left\{-\frac{2\pi i}{\lambda}[s(\sin\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi) + t \sin\theta \sin\phi]\right\} \times \left\{\exp\left[-\frac{4\pi^2\sigma^2}{\lambda^2}(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2[1 - \exp(-r^2/a^2)]\right] - \exp\left[-\frac{4\pi^2\sigma^2}{\lambda^2}(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2\right]\right\}$$

Eqn. (37) is changed slightly and eqn. (38) becomes

$$\langle |\mathcal{E} - \langle \mathcal{E} \rangle|^2 \rangle = \frac{e^2}{4\lambda^2 r^2} \frac{\lambda^2 a^2}{4\pi\sigma^2} \exp\left[-\frac{a^2}{4\sigma^2} \frac{(\sin\theta \cos\phi - \sin\psi)^2 + \sin^2\theta \sin^2\phi}{(\cos\theta + \cos\psi)^2}\right]$$

and eqn. (39)

$$\langle |\mathcal{E} - \langle \mathcal{E} \rangle|^2 \rangle = \frac{a^2 e^2 \lambda m}{16\pi\sigma^2 r^2} \exp\left[-\frac{a^2}{16\sigma^2}(\chi^2 + w^2 \sec^2\psi)\right]$$

There are similar slight changes in Section 4, giving for eqn.

$$P_s = \frac{P_t G A a^2 \tau c \beta}{128\pi^2 \sigma^2 R_0^3} \operatorname{cosec}\psi \exp\left(-\frac{a^2}{4\sigma^2} \tan^2\psi\right)$$

Therefore the theoretical curves in Fig. 4 are the curves  $a^2/2\sigma^2 = 50, 60$ .

\* DAVIES, H.: Monograph No. 90 R, January, 1954 (see 101, Part IV, p. 209).





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